PROPERTY OF THE
CITY OF NEW YORK

The Forum

FEBRUARY 1922

THE AMERICAN AGE OF EGO

By N. P. Dawson

THINKING of Mr. Strachey's "Queen Victoria", which is a pleasant thing to do, and of her Age and her Literature (and her Albert) we have wondered what tag posterity will attach to our own troublous times, and have concluded that ours will be known as the age of Expressionism, the age of the capital *I*, of the Ego, kicking up its heels on a blazing field of red. No mild Victorian or Georgian appellation could fitly describe an age in which every man is out on his own, and is *I* at the top of his voice. As Walt Whitman intoned, with more reason than some of his followers, "I sing the song of Myself."

In nine out of ten first novels to be published, a young man's fancy seriously turns to thoughts of self, or of myself, in love. Modern poetry is largely subjective, and the freer it is, generally the more subjective it is. Self-expression is the need of the hour. We beat our breasts and pound our typewriters until the keys rattle in an effort to express ourselves. We cannot imagine an expressionistic

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

novel being written on a noiseless typewriter. Noise is its natural accompaniment. It does not make much difference what is expressed. Expression is the thing. Our day will be known as the day of the great Ego Drive, the Revolt of the Egos.

The big *I* has even penetrated into the austere domain of history, and has shaken its massive pillars to their foundations. History, once supposed to be the one literary form in which the personal bias could not enter, if it was to be worth anything at all, has now become as much a matter of personal expression as poetry or writing one's novel (with the aid of Dr. Freud.) It is not what is known of Napoleon that matters, but what you feel about Napoleon. What I think about Napoleon is more important than anything that Napoleon did. History, so to speak, has become a Personal Outline.

Essays are now largely matters of self-expression and informal personalities. The essayist is not concerned with the country road or the city street, but with himself walking along that road or street. And travel has perhaps become particularly expressionistic. Whereas it used to be said a man traveled to write, now he travels to express himself. Take Mr. Joseph Hergesheimer, for example, in his "San Cristobal de la Habana." We say "his" Havana, because that is what for the time being it is, and no one else's. In Havana, Mr. Hergesheimer is interested in the "colors, scents, and emotions" of his own experience. We see him lingering luxuriously over dressing for his first dinner in Havana, finishing the last Dimitrino cigarette, and even leaving the "wet prints" of his feet on the polished tiles of the floor, while he deliberates whether to wear a dinner jacket ("slightly varied, perhaps, by white flannels"), or "a more informal jacket of white silk"—also with the flannels. Mr. Hergesheimer is not interested in "San Cristobal de la Habana," but in himself there. No one could imagine Mr. Hergesheimer going to Rome and describing the Sistine Chapel. He would be more likely to describe

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the morning coat he wore on that occasion. The modern expressionistic traveler is not interested in Michelangelo but in himself. And not many of the moderns, it should be interpolated, are so interesting as Hergesheimer.

The theatre also, like the poet and novelist and historian and traveler and everyone nowadays, is apparently interested in itself and is out on its own. The theatre, as may be learned in the newest books on the subject, wants to be free, it wants to lead its own life, it wants to express itself. It rebels at being longer slavishly representational. It wants to be presentational. It slams the door on Mr. Belasco's realistic detail of a Childs' restaurant.

It is said that Flaubert, a great name in French and in all literature, read four hundred pages before he was satisfied that he had an accurate description of a particular kind of tree. In the modernist theatre, no one wants a tree at all, or even the illusion of a tree, but the illusion of the atmosphere of myself under the tree.

It is all a part of the new anarchy, or whatever you want to call it, which has attacked painting and poetry and music and the theatre and fiction. It is Bolshevism of a sort—before Bolshevism recanted; when it is not Freudianism. In the theatre, for example, the cry is "To the lantern" with the bourgeois actors; off with their heads, substitute a super-marionette; or at least, hide the heads with masks. Come forward, the smiling mechanician and electrician to take the curtain call—if there is a curtain in the new theatrical expressionism, of which we cannot be sure.

Who can be sure of anything nowadays? If verse without form or rhyme, and sceneryless scenery, and actorless drama, and history as it seems to me, and travel as I dressed the part—without churches or monuments or galleries or anything but me—why not self-expression in all the forms of art? The Ego may be a little thing but it is my own. Only the horrible doubt will arise that expressionism may be the German "Ersatz" for genius.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Years ago before the war, when we used to go to Germany, travelers brought back with them, among their picture post-cards and souvenirs, the "Nuremberg Trichter." This was a miniature funnel, a pleasing device by which Hans Sachs, the sixteenth-century cobbler-poet and meistersinger, alleged that the golden gift of poesy could be poured into the ears of young novitiates.

Now it is the other way around. The poem is already in us, as are also the novel and the play and the book of whatever sort. It is only necessary to get them out. Instead of Hans Sachs and his funnel, we have Dr. Sigmund Freud and his surgery. The idea is to let Freud do it. Freud, as it may be imagined, makes a slight excision in the heads of his patients, inserts a small piece of tubing, and draws forth hitherto hidden and suppressed masterpieces of literature.

Only sometimes what comes forth is not a masterpiece, but is so small and gentle a trickle that it hardly seems to have been worth the operation—or the price. Then again, there is a great explosion and a frightful mess, and the words spatter all over the place. But there is relief for the patient, apparently, as in the old-fashioned blood-letting, even if no one else is much benefitted.

The mere effort is worth the doing. More than one of Sherwood Anderson's admirers have commented with enthusiastic fervor on the first story in his volume receiving the *Dial* award, called "The Dumb Man", and which begins: "There is a story . . . I cannot tell it . . . I have no words." The fact that Mr. Anderson tries to tell stories for which there are no words—or at least for which he himself has no words—is what makes him so different, so exciting; what makes him respond, so to say, to some mysterious need of the American people.

Everybody is doing it, and we hear of a young man who had been mulling over his novel for years, without being able to go forward with it, when, under the Freudian treatment, it suddenly came forth like the goddess, full-clad

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

and panoplied and ready for print. Also we hear of classes everywhere being formed, in which the students, by this same psycho-analytical method, learn how to write novels as easily as they now talk.

There are no "agonies of style", from which Flaubert suffered, as he wrote to Georges Sand, in this new kind of ouija-board writing. All the novelist has to do is to let himself go, let it out, whatever it is; put everything down just as it comes. Flaubert was six years writing "Madame Bovary", a story which is not yet despised by the most modern of the modernists—who would doubtless write another Bovary if they could. Flaubert did not like to see the same word repeated on the same page. But repetition is now the thing.

Repeat a word as many times as you like—the more times the merrier, or the more mystifying and impressive. If you cannot think of a word, use asterisks, which are often more eloquent still. Use sentences of one word, of two words, of three words. Put down anything that comes into your head, and if nothing comes into your head, as sometimes happens, fill up with asterisks, exclamation points, interrogation points, Gods—perhaps especially Gods. A single paragraph from the Chicago Ben Hecht's novel, "Erik Dorn", will illustrate:

> I'm sad again. The flat roof says something. Is it Erik? Dear Erik! Poor Erik! I love you. But I'll begin crying. Pretty tears, amusing tears . . . Mine . . . mine . . . mine . . . I know, I know. I must keep on dying, keep on dying. Look, I can laugh! Amusing that I can laugh . . . Oh, God . . . God . . .

And Flaubert did not want a word to recur on the same page, and he was fastidious about commas. "I always marvel at my garrulity", says Mr. Hecht's hero, and he admits a "complete emptiness of emotion or idea." Mr. Hecht's self-expression recalls Gertrude Stein, whose "Tender Buttons" erupted the same year as the war. At the time, it was said that Gertrude Stein's method was to

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

sit in a dark room and put down the words, pell mell, as they occurred to her; which produced some startling results. For example "Eye Glasses" and "Orange" emerged respectively:

> A color in shaving, a saloon is well placed in the center of the alley.
>
> A type oh oh new new not no knealer knealer of old show beefsteak, neither, neither.

Much in Mr. Hecht's style makes you think of "Tender Buttons", that title of masterly irrelevancy, and book of hocus-pocus which has long since been exposed and laughed out of court. It was the kind of irrelevancy that Dickens used for humorous purposes in the character of "Mr. F's Aunt" in "Little Dorrit": a terrifying old lady, who after regarding the company for ten minutes with a malevolent gaze was likely to burst out with something as mystifying and as wide of the trend of the general conversation as: "When we lived at Henley, Barnes's gander was stole by tinkers." Dickens says:

> The major characteristics discoverable by the stranger in Mr. F's Aunt were extreme severity and grim taciturnity; a deep warning voice, which, being totally uncalled for by anything said by anybody, and traceable to no association of ideas, confounded and terrified the mind. Mr. F's Aunt may have thrown in these conversations on some system of her own, and it may have been ingenious, or even subtle, but the key to it was wanted.

It is easy to believe that this new kind of expressionistic writing meets some need of the individual, but it is not so clear what need it meets of the American people. Yet almost everyone of a recent group of American novels—"Erik Dorn", Newton Fuessle's "Gold Shod", and Sherwood Anderson's "The Triumph of the Egg"—is advertised as not only marking the "new tendency" in American fiction, but meeting a need of the American people.

The Dial's award of two thousand dollars was given to Sherwood Anderson because his work "is a response to a

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

need of the American people." Mr. Fuessle's "Gold Shod" is also advertised as not only an entirely new interpretation of American life, but as meeting some need in America. While we suppose that Evelyn Scott's "The Narrow House", and Charles G. Norris' "Brass: A Novel of Marriage", are also generous attempts on the parts of the authors to bring relief to suffering America.

What is this dreadful need in America which so much excites the compassion and *insanible scribendi cacoethes* of these novelists? It must be what the author of "A Young Girl's Diary" calls "segsual."

Poor White, poor people of Winesburg, Ohio, poor women of Iowa! In Sherwood Anderson's stories they are all hungry, half-crazed, sex-driven. The women from Iowa in "The Triumph of the Egg" are always gripping the corn stalks, or biting the dust, or running; running away from, or perhaps after, something. The woman from Willow Springs in Iowa rubs her cheek against the bark of the tree until the blood comes, when she sees Hardy's "maid and her wight" on their eternal way. The woman who had been a music teacher back in Iowa, in the Chicago boarding house, says to the man "Take me, take me!" A man, returning from the movies with his wife, stabs her in the dark hall, when he happens to think of the girl from Iowa. In examining these sad cases in his prying, psychoanalytical, squinting, humorless, tiresome fashion, it may be asked how Mr. Anderson is meeting the need of the American people; his own need, it may be; but as for the other, tosh.

Mr. Fuessle's "Gold Shod" contains a warning for parents. Let the boy follow his temperament. Let him be an artist, if this is what he wants to be. Do not force him to be a Detroit millionaire automobile manufacturer. For suppressed desires will out. Mr. Fuessle's hero cannot see a "refined corseted" female on the street, without becoming intoxicated. If he sees a pretty girl coming out of a telephone booth, he rushes up to her and exclaims: "If women

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

were all as enticing as you, I'd be reeling through life like a madman." Meeting another woman, he gasps: "You enter my eyes like a magic liquor." If magic liquor is like prohibition liquor, his eyes must have smarted indeed. He is disappointed in the woman he finally marries, because she is uninitiated, not sufficiently sophisticated. The end is: "He did not regret his transgressions. He found comfort in the opera singers and actresses he had backed." And it was all, no doubt, the fault of sordid, ugly, materialistic, automobilistic America.

A striking scene in "Erik Dorn" is when the woman is cured of her love for Erik. When the poet, or the painter, or whoever he was, "tore at her clothes, beating her with his fist until her head rattled on her neck"—then, only then, she knew that it was not Erik she loved, but this one who satisfied the innermost needs of her being, and treated her rough. Pity, according to the new formula, is not akin to love, but love is akin to hate.

In her description of hungry human beings, made unlovely and even murderous and insane from suppressed desires and thwarted loves, Evelyn Scott in "The Narrow House" keeps pace with Sherwood Anderson—and, incidentally, is not at a loss for words, but has no difficulty in telling her stories. How ugly it all is. We sympathize with the several attempts of the women in the story to kill themselves, having once become familiar with their environment. "She picked up the scissors, plunging the points twice into her flesh with quick stabs." But can you blame her? From the dripping and leaking gutters and limp curtains on the first page, to the buzzing flies on the last, everything is ugly. Birth is ugly, death is ugly, and likewise love. Stars in the heavens are "putrescent" or plain "rotted." Hair is uncombed, necks are scrawny, dress is dowdy. Muffins are smashed on the dining room carpet, and the flies feast on the cold mutton. Milk is blue in "The Narrow House", sugar is grey, the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

tomato soup—we knew how it would be, but almost screamed when we read that the soup was curdled.

This is the kind of writing that is received with yelps of delight by those who allege to see in it a new interpretation of American life, a response to a need of the American people, the acme of art instead of the silly anarchy that it is. Mr. Norris' "Brass: A Novel of Marriage", should have been called a novel of marriages. Hope triumphs over experience a number of times. The hero has "one rotten deal after another." One wife will not have her window open at night. Another wife has cold feet—when he doubtless would not object to having the window closed. Another almost-wife says: "Our marriage cannot be solemnized." It was a narrow squeak. You can do something for cold feet, but you cannot do anything for a woman who says: "Our marriage cannot be solemnized." The best of the lot, to whom he is not exactly married, is old and frowsy and grey-haired "Mrs. Grotenstein." But she prepares his tub in the morning, and does not rattle the newspaper.

Mr. Norris' fellow "artists", whose chorus of praise of "Brass" has now been repeated in the advertisements to nausea, agree that his story has not distinction of style, is humorless and dreary. But what of this? "Brass" doubtless meets some need of the American people.

America's need being so great, it follows that these writers should find the country in a bad way. Everything is very, very sad, and ugly. Mr. Hecht makes his hero say this country will "go Bolshevist"—just as Captain Traprock and his friends in the South Sea Islands voted to "go native"—as soon as it is discovered that Bolshevism is a degree more imbecile than democracy. They are all terrifically ironic on the subject of democracy. They may be psycho-analytic, but no one could accuse them of being in the slightest degree pollyannalytic. They do not all follow the English novelist, D. H. Lawrence, to the extent that man being the great mistake of creation, he should

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

disappear from the earth like the ichthyosauri, and some morning a lark should rise singing on a humanless world. They apparently think a few of the worthy ones should be left to pick up the pieces.

Why this sudden desire for expression? Why this great need of America that must be heroically met? Why the gloom? Is it the war, or is it possibly Freud? A recently returned traveler, a disciple of Freud, saw him at Bad-Gasteinstein in the Tyrol. He was apparently taking the "cure", and looked as if he needed it. He seemed to be in the last stages of melancholia. He stared into void. He was accompanied by a nurse, elderly and stern. If this picture is correct of the man so many are following in an eager desire for life enhancement and self-fulfilment (and to write their books) is it curious that the writers themselves should take a gloomy view of things, and should spill it all out in their novels? It is said that having released the ugliness in American life, they will next release beauty. But we shiver at the thought of their discovering beauty even more than at their discovery of "truth."

EGYPT IN AMERICA

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

There is a moment when the sun is fled,
And, grey on grey, the evening sky-line fades,
When, from the tired ground, the little blades
Of grass that tangle all this gravestone's head—
From all this, like an arrow that is sped,
Straight upward, rises through the twilight shade
A single spire, and all the sky invades
With the still, perfect darkness of the dead.

Here is a calm, a timeless majesty,
Bred in unfevered ages, slow, austere—
The heavy power of waiting we have lost,
(Bartered for slighter things, a bitter cost)
For one brief moment stands incarnate here—
Dead Egypt painted on a northern sky!

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

HENRY FORD—MARPLOT

By PHILIP KING

ALMOST the first yarn a New England youngster hears is one to the effect that the early settlers of New England sold wooden nutmegs, wooden hams, and wooden cucumber seeds to the Indians. As a matter of fact, there are New England women alive today who relate that in their girlhood, Yankee peddlers went through the southern states selling wooden nutmegs. It would seem that the selling of wooden nutmegs, hams, and cucumber seeds to the Indians was more or less confined to New England. At the time those Yankees, in song and story, were spoken of as "drefful smart."

Henry Ford, the great Detroit automobile manufacturer and a transcendent genius in advertising, in exploiting the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad which he purchased a little over a year ago, has played the wooden nutmeg, wooden ham, and wooden cucumber seed game on the American people. Mr. Ford and his friends have heralded throughout the land how he purchased a bankrupt railroad, one which had been bankrupt for more years than one cares to remember, and had, overnight, by increasing its freight traffic, made it a paying concern and had thus performed a great railroad feat. At first a number of writers, one or two professors, and others, without having complete information, held Mr. Ford's performances to be a railroad "miracle," while others, deeply versed in the economics of railroads, and utterly practical men, were quite aware that Mr. Ford had practised the wooden nutmeg, wooden ham, and wooden cucumber seed game, and only grinned.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

In editorials and public statements Mr. Ford was spoken of by his friends as the "Almighty Genius" of the railroad world; and the great news was sent broadcast throughout the universe.

Practical railroad men have not been as ready as a credulous public to believe that Henry Ford has worked a miracle in the operation of the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad. Whatever may be conceded as to Mr. Ford's success in the automobile business, even in extricating himself from his financial difficulties of last year, railroad experts insist that the stories of his achievement with his new railroad, if taken at their face value, read like the discovery of perpetual motion.

For many years the Ford plants in and about Detroit have been served chiefly by the New York Central, Grand Trunk, Père Marquette, and Wabash, doing only a small business with the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad. The business was distributed among these carriers with service satisfactory to the shipper. The Detroit, Toledo and Ironton was receiving the least of this tonnage, as it reached no important points. This latter road had been receiving liberal divisions on the through rates on business interchanged with its connections, but this failed to yield sufficient revenue to sustain it. The shipping of raw materials to, and the manufacturing and shipping of finished products from the Ford plants, normally yielded perhaps upward of five hundred cars of freight per day.

Mr. Ford bought the D. T. and I. through the purchase of stock and adjustment bonds of that company. The road had outstanding seven million six hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars of adjustment bonds, five million nine hundred and eighty-nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight dollars preferred, and six million five hundred thousand dollars common stock in addition to two million two hundred and fifty-four thousand dollars of underlying bonds. Mr. Ford paid four million five hundred and seventy-six thousand eight hundred dollars for the adjust-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ment five's, three hundred thousand dollars for the preferred stock, and sixty-five thousand dollars for the common stock, or a total of four million, four hundred and ninety-one thousand eight hundred dollars. Mr. Ford's capital outlay, therefore, was relatively small, and the difference represents the loss of the people whose money built and equipped the railroad.

With the acquisition of the railroad, Mr. Ford concentrated the larger part of his own tonnage movement on his new property. He exacted from connecting carriers percentages of division which the other railroads recognized as an excessive burden in some instances, but which were yielded by certain lines because this tonnage could be completely diverted elsewhere. The tariff on this freight has been estimated at twenty-two million dollars a year.

Mr. Ford essayed to reduce the force of employees on the D. T. and I., and to lower freight rates—and from the liberal divisions he insisted upon receiving from the trunk lines, he could afford to pay a higher union scale of wages. His application to be allowed to reduce rates twenty per cent. on coal along the line of the D. T. and I. has been denied by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The commission based its action on the ground that the reduction would constitute a discrimination against other mining territory, the coal product of which is sold in Toledo, Detroit, and other cities along Mr. Ford's railroad. In September and October, 1920, the number of employees on the D. T. and I., as on all other roads, was at a maximum, but in January, 1921, before Mr. Ford actually took control, the number of men employed was one thousand five hundred and sixty-seven. In March the number was one thousand three hundred and twenty-six, and in June, one thousand six hundred and forty-nine. All other railroads are affected by the rulings of the Interstate Commerce Commission as founded upon the Transportation Act, and by the decrees of the Railroad Labor Board. It remains to be seen if Mr. Ford has not run amuck with the govern-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

mental authorities. While there may have been considerable local business between Toledo and Detroit before Mr. Ford gained control of the D. T. and I., it could not have been of the high paying order until his own masterful decrees increased the traffic from his own manufactories in Detroit.

In addition, Mr. Ford has been able to give the little D. T. and I. the longest haul possible; for example, an automobile from Detroit to St. Louis can be delivered to the Baltimore and Ohio at the southerly end of the D. T. and I. instead of to the New York Central at the northerly end. Also coal for his plants can be brought from the lines that will give the D. T. and I. a long haul instead of merely a switching charge.

Rates cannot be reduced by individual roads without disturbing the entire rate structure served by them, but the increased carrier divisions which Mr. Ford has enacted have left the rates nominally undisturbed. However, these increased carrier divisions, which now aggregate over five hundred thousand dollars per month, are paid to a road which under normal traffic conditions would not receive them. The result is that the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad is receiving a large percentage of revenue above what it would obtain under ordinary conditions for the service it performs, and out of all proportion to that received by its connecting carriers for similar service or similar hauling.

Railroad men see in Mr. Ford's apparent success in transportation merely the result of his ability to obtain return tonnage on an exceptionally favorable basis from really great railroads and make his small line show a profit. It is even suggested that sooner or later this question will be investigated with a view to determining whether or not Mr. Ford has discovered an ingenious method for evading the transportation laws prohibiting rebates.

Mr. Ford is a good self-advertiser. In general there is nothing reprehensible in this form of gratification. Some

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of his publicity, however, is likely to prove detrimental to the public welfare. Such is pre-eminently the case with the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad. The impression created among the un-thinking public is that he took over a railroad property which was in a state of collapse and by the magic of his genius transformed it into a profitable enterprise. The natural implication is that railroad managers are an incompetent lot and that the public has to pay in increased rates for their incompetence. It is particularly unfortunate that such a false impression should gain currency at a time when the life of the railroads is at stake, and when the prosperity of the country in turn depends upon them. Mr. Ford has not developed new business for the railroad in the territory tributary to it; he simply diverted from other roads their normal share of business, and he has done so by tactics that have for years been frowned upon by the public authorities. It is bad enough that Mr. Ford should have reverted to such methods in pursuit of private gain, but it is still worse that he should be represented to the public as a railway wizard who by his genius is able to raise wages, lower rates, and transform a losing railway enterprise into a profitable one, while experienced railroad executives of the country have failed.

The Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad is what may be termed a "north and south railroad in an east and west country." This means that the general flow of traffic is east- and west-bound between Chicago, St. Louis, Buffalo, etc., and the Atlantic Seaboard including Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Providence and Boston. It would be an unnatural diversion of business to route this traffic over the D. T. and I., inasmuch as it runs at right angles to the east- and west-bound flow of traffic.

Mr. Ford has been able to cause the D. T. and I. to earn money because of the placement of his entire business over that line. He has been able to compel the lines crossing the D. T. and I. to grant the latter substantial divisions as a consideration for receiving a share of his traffic. It is

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

stated that it was only necessary for Mr. Ford to break the ice with one road when all the rest fell into line to meet the competition, giving the D. T. and I. substantial divisions with the hope of getting a share of his business. Mr. Ford, it is added, sent his emissaries throughout the country to solicit business other than his own from the various railroads to be moved over the D. T. and I. as a consideration for receiving a share of his own material, namely automobiles and raw material for their manufacture.

The D. T. and I. Railroad, on its merits, was worthless to any of the trunk lines because it runs contrary to the general flow of traffic and no other interest or influence than Mr. Ford would be able to feed the D. T. and I. with business that would enable it to earn properly. The Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad was organized May twenty-fifth, 1901, when the Detroit Southern Railroad was organized as successor to the Ohio Southern and the Detroit and Lima Northern. In 1905 the company was re-organized and the name changed to the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railway Company. In 1914 this corporation dissolved in favor of the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad Company. Speaking of north and south railroads in east and west country, it may be added that the Minneapolis and St. Louis, which dates back to 1853 when it was called the Minnesota Western Railroad, is in the same boat as the D. T. and I. was before its purchase by Mr. Ford. The Minneapolis and St. Louis assumed its present name in 1870 and first operated in 1871. It was re-organized without change of name in 1894 and again in 1916. Then, too, the old Iowa Central was another north and south road in east and west country. It was originally the Eldora Railroad and Coal Company, was organized in 1866 and opened two years later. In 1870, several companies were consolidated under the name of the Central Railroad Company of Iowa, which in 1879 was re-organized under the name of the Central Iowa Railway Company. A further re-organization occurred in 1889, when the name

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of the Iowa Central Railway Company was assumed. On January first, 1912, the road was purchased by the Minneapolis and St. Louis.

These railroads were organized in the hope of making money. There was no scientific thought connected with them at that time and to a large extent they were looked upon as local roads. But later on, railroad builders recognized the immutable fact that the general trend of traffic was eastward and westward and not northward and southward, with the exception, of course, of the Louisville and Nashville and the Illinois Central. These two great railroads have a very good movement of traffic from Chicago and the Lake Cities to the Gulf. The trend of traffic in that particular territory between the northern cities, Chicago and others included, and the Gulf ports has been and is particularly prosperous. And the Atlantic Coast Line, between northern cities and Florida, can be included in this category. But the Minneapolis and St. Louis and the old Iowa Central, as well as the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton, had no such traffic. The D. T. and I. is not a through railroad like the Louisville and Nashville and the Illinois Central, or the Atlantic Coast Line. Its total mileage is only four hundred and fifty-five miles, its main lines running between Dellray and Dundee, Mich., Tecumseh and Jackson, Ohio, and Bloom and Ironton, Ohio. The D. T. and I. is benefited by Mr. Ford's business in the shape of raw materials which he has been in a position to force the east and west railroads to take and hand over to the D. T. and I. The Minneapolis and St. Louis and the old Iowa Central did not have great manufacturers like Mr. Ford to load them down with traffic and to compel other railroads to give them traffic for their own factories.

Not a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, ditto the Railroad Board, ditto the railroad labor union bodies, not a single railroad executive, not a single railroad employee of any experience, not a single business man or shipper—not one has been taken off his feet by the claims

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of Mr. Ford in connection with the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad. One or two college professors embalmed in theory and without practical knowledge of railroading, have been misled and in their public utterances have misguided the people on this matter. In the same category are a few writers who, without complete knowledge, rushed into print with articles and editorials hailing Mr. Ford as the great miracle worker and solver of the railroad problems of our country.

The following official figures tell the actual story of the D. T. and I. The total tonnage has remained in many instances almost stationary, but there was a large decrease in products of mines and a large increase in manufactures (paying much higher rates) for the period mentioned. Selecting the principal items in these two groups, the comparison is as follows:

	Second Quarter		
	1920	1921	Increase
Products of mines:			
Bituminous coal	554,050	416,843	d 137,207
Coke	44,227	23,958	d 20,269
Iron ore.....	38,650	37	d 20,269
Clay, gravel, sand and stone	75,854	84,924	9,070
Manufactures and miscellaneous:			
Iron, pig and bloom.....	100,260	22,373	d 77,887
Bar and sheet iron, etc.....	20,989	104,897	83,908
Castings, mchy. and boilers	14,281	45,079	30,798
Cement	11,530	28,412	16,882
Agricultural implements and vehicles other than automobiles	2,118	29,011	26,893
Automobiles and auto trucks	4,489	208,575	204,086
Chemicals and explosives..	73,062	17,550	d 55,512
Other manufactures and miscellaneous	82,527	81,007	d 1,520

d—Decrease

These figures speak for themselves. The coal, iron ore, pig iron, and chemical traffic declined, while bar and sheet

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

iron, castings, and vehicles showed great increases. *In particular does the movement of automobiles and auto trucks stand out, being an increase from a nominal four thousand four hundred and eighty-nine tons in the second quarter of* 1920 *to two hundred and eight thousand five hundred and seventy-five tons in the second quarter of* 1921, *an increase of* 4546 *per cent.* The increase in metal parts shows also that raw or partly finished material for the manufacture of automobiles is being shipped over the line to a degree unheard of before Mr. Ford acquired control—all for Mr. Ford's factories at Detroit. Or in other words, the volume of low rate commodities decreased—due in part to the depression in business—but other commodities paying higher rates showed great increase—because Mr. Ford, the shipper, was able to give Mr. Ford, the railroad man, business that formerly went to other railroads.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Ford simply plays his railroad against other railroads because of his power as a manufacturer. In effect he says to one big trunk line: "Give me service and I will give you freight. No service, no freight. I will give it to another line." But even Mr. Ford and his railroad are subject to the age-old rule of supply and demand, and scientific expert knowledge of railroading; and this is clearly shown by the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission. These reports show that for the six months of September, 1920, to February, 1921, after Mr. Ford had bought the road but had not yet installed the new management, the D. T. and I. had a constant succession of deficits. For March the net operating income was seventy-seven thousand nine hundred and eighty-five dollars. By April, the effects of the Ford traffic or the Ford genius were made apparent in a net operating income of two hundred and seventy-six thousand four hundred and fifty-two dollars, which resulted from an increase in revenues of two hundred and fifty-eight thousand four hundred and thirty-nine dollars, while the expenses increased only forty-two thousand eight hundred and forty-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

six dollars. The report for April became available about July first, or about the time Mr. Ford announced his increase in wages and proposed reductions in rates, and led to the wide publicity given to statements that Mr. Ford had shown an increase in net while increasing wages and reducing rates. For May there was a further increase in revenues, but the expenses also went up and the net was lower than in April; *and in each month since the net has been lower than it was the month before until in August it was only seventy thousand six hundred and fifty-three dollars,* or less than it was in March, although the revenues were greater than in any preceding month and three hundred and twenty-four thousand dollars greater than in March. The revenues, expenses and net for the six months of Mr. Ford's management are shown in the accompanying table:

Month	Operating revenues	Operating expenses	Operating ratio, per cent	Net operating income
March, 1921	$439,052	$352,970	80.4	$77,985
April	697,491	395,816	56.7	276,452
May	744,406	422,328	56.7	263,293
June	713,527	376,383	52.7	261,259
July	744,498	444,794	59.7	187,395
August	763,840	548,246	71.8	70,643
	$4,102,814	$2,540,537	61.9	$1,137,027

Mr. Ford, in his talks, has desired a comparison between his railroad and the railroads of the country. These inexorable reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission show that between June and August, when Mr. Ford made his famous changes in rates and wages, the total earnings of his road, the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton, increased seven per cent, while those of all the Class I railroads increased nine and one-third per cent. Meantime, the operating expenses of the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton *increased forty-six per cent,* while those of the Class I railroads increased less than one per cent. In consequence the net operating income of the D. T. and I. *declined* over seventy per cent, while that of the Class I railroads *increased* from fifty-one

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

million six hundred and forty thousand dollars to ninety million, two hundred and forty-one thousand dollars, or almost seventy-five per cent. The increase in net operating income of the Class I roads was mainly due to the reduction of wages of July first.

It has been a wooden ham, wooden nutmeg, wooden cucumber seed "railroad miracle" on the part of Mr. Ford from start to finish; and I regret exceedingly to be compelled to note this fact.

Mr. Ford pronounced history to be "bunk." Perhaps Anatole France, thought by many to be the most scholarly fictionist of his day, puts it rather more delicately when he declares history to be made up, more or less, of fiction. But in the foregoing narrative giving the facts and figures concerning Mr. Ford's railroad, there is neither "bunk" nor "fiction."

MISERERE

By CALE YOUNG RICE

Wind, rain and thunder last night wildly intoned
A mighty miserere to the skies.
Under a surge of sound the forest moaned
And swayed and crossed itself, penitent-wise.
Its leafy limbs reached out, or clutched and listened,
As still things seem to do, for the next crash.
Terribly then followed the lightning's lash,
And the wet earth, scourged with pallor, glistened.

Infinite seemed the sound along the earth;
And yet beyond lay interstellar space,
To which such spasms are but as the worth
And buzz of a fly's wing—leaving no trace.
Is there no final measure then at all
For greatness? Are our strivings, too, as small?

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

WOMEN IN GERMAN TRADE UNIONS

By ALICE SALOMON

THE political equality which German women have attained is no more than an equality of opportunity. It rests with woman herself to work out her new opportunities in the practical realities of economic conditions and professional life. The struggle will of necessity be a fierce one, for there has been strong opposition to the entrance of German women into professional life and occupations generally.

Nevertheless, for thirty years the barriers have been slowly falling. Women have entered into almost every sphere of work. They crept in at the lowest rungs of the ladder; they began with the very poorest recompense; the better positions could be attained only by a few, and that after long siege.

As in other countries, the scarcity of hands and brains during the war afforded German women opportunities which had before been denied them, but more than in other countries, since the war, the general and long continual unemployment and the birth convulsions of a new order sharpened sex-competition. Trade-unions and associations, always highly developed among employed women, find themselves involved in a movement which will be of high import for the young republic. These are the only media through which women can stand and fight for their own rights. Woman as an individual is swept away by a flood of unfavorable circumstances, unless she is strongly backed by her union. But the rôle of women in trade-unionism is assuming larger and larger proportions. To a great extent

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

it will depend on woman's part in the economic struggle of the day whether the present widespread unrest among German workers shall continue, or whether the nation will return to its traditions of devotion to work.

Never has trade-unionism as a whole played a more important part in the life of the individual just as in the life of the community. For the first time in the history of the German nation these unions are now acknowledged representatives of labor—both physical and mental labor; acknowledged both by government and by employers. For the first time, too, their efforts have a real prospect of success. For one thing is certain: though the whole German standard of living, the whole of German civilization may be doomed to downfall—of whatever remains, the working classes will have their full share. What wonder then that women have flocked into unions and associations. Their economic position, their entrance into professional life, their representation in factory and shop council, depend upon the influence which they can acquire through their united efforts.

It is doubtless due to the unscrupulous advantage which men took of their superior position in fighting against women's entrance into professions and higher careers, that with the exception of factory workers all women are organized in associations of their own, distinct from those of the men, and that these associations follow an independent policy. Until recently, in fact, there has been a constant antagonism, sometimes an open fight, between the associations of men and women teachers, men and women shop assistants, etc.

The revolution has forced the women's unions and associations to take a new turn. No longer is their fight theoretical—against traditions and reactionary views. No longer do they work merely for the education and better training of their fellow workers. It is no longer a slow and determined conquest of new positions wrested from the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

privileged sex. They are now in the open arena of the struggle for existence.

Associations among educated women are comparatively old and widespread in Germany. Naturally the oldest organizations, which have a large membership, have secured for women a share in the great economic changes of the day. The general association of women teachers, embracing teachers in elementary schools as well as those in high schools and colleges, teachers of technical subjects, of music, etc., is a striking instance of the development of these associations. Formed about thirty years ago, when only the lowest positions in ordinary girls' schools were open to women, when there was no possibility that a woman so employed should be trained in a university, when the salary attached amounted to only a sort of pin-money, and the social position of such teachers was exceedingly uncertain, this association has gradually succeeded in securing for women the privilege of coming up for the same examinations as men. It has enabled them to compete equally for all positions in the field of education. Theoretically, they may now even become the heads of public schools and preside over a mixed staff of men and women. This last stronghold was defended vigorously by the men, and great conferences were held and long speeches made to prove that it is not dignified for a man "to serve under a woman." Strangely enough, men had never seemed to find it undignified to teach in private schools, which were usually in the hands of women. It is easy to believe that this conquest was difficult, for these positions were comparatively very well paid. The struggle for a living wage for women teachers was long and hard; it is only recently that the principle of equal pay for equal work has been more or less adopted by government and municipality. At the present this usually means that women teachers have not quite so many hours of class work as men, and are paid in proportion. On the whole, salaries of school teachers are now

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

very good, as far as any pay can be called good in a country where money has so little value. At any rate they have much better incomes than most people of similar education in private positions. On the other hand, the teacher who is not a municipal employee is going through a real crisis, and there is little chance for teachers of music and languages to secure a living wage. Associations cannot do more for them than help them to help each other.

One of the strongest women's associations in Germany, one which is at the center of the present struggle for equality of opportunity and for equal pay for equal work, is the association of office clerks, secretaries, salespeople, trade employees, and shop-assistants. While men in these occupations rarely belong to the educated classes, many girls with high school educations enter these forms of employment, probably attracted thereto by two considerations—the short period of preparation which is demanded, and the possibility of quickly earning good salaries. Though there has been little competition between men and women in this profession, since their spheres of work have been, to some extent at least, distinct, some of the men's unions were always passionately opposed to women's taking these positions. Contradictory as it may seem, the revolution has had the effect of promoting agreement between the men's and women's associations, at the same moment when woman's struggle for existence is much intensified, and when men are crowding into positions formerly agreed to be in woman's domain.

What does that mean? In all countries which were involved in the war, the men who came back from the trenches have been accorded the first right to employment. Women, who during the war had often been mere stop-gaps, must obviously step aside. But very soon other men, not war veterans, claimed the same right. With the appalling unemployment which followed the Armistice, a government order was issued, to the effect that all women who had not

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

been working before the war and who were not dependent on their earnings, should be dismissed. This was a deadly stroke. It meant the introduction of an entirely new principle of employment. Not the able, the competent, but the needy were now to be considered. It may be that this was justified in that hour of sore need. But it seemed to throw women back for decades. Their future seemed blocked unless they should succeed in putting this rule out of force at the earliest possible moment.

But events move very quickly in time of revolution. One of the earliest fruits of the German revolution was the law providing for the introduction of factory and shop-councils. These have an influence over the employing and dismissal of workers. On their attitude toward women employees, therefore, the whole future of the matter depended. New difficulties, of course, arose. The elections for the councils were held on the proportional representation basis, and candidates were, for the most part, nominated by trade-unionists who had some experience in administrative work. Women had very little chance of getting on the general lists, as long as they were organized in separate unions. From this situation sprang the new desire in women, not to amalgamate, but to come to some permanent agreement with men's unions, whose interests would also be served by some sort of fusion. So the economic struggle between the sexes seems to compel a solution, in some occupations, at least. Conditions and the history of development have been very similar in the associations of post and railway officials, who belong to the strongest associations of women in Germany.

Entirely different is the history of development of associations in the professions, which belong exclusively or predominantly to women. It has been often said and generally believed that women cannot be as easily led to strike as men. This may be true for married women. It certainly is not, under all circumstances, for unmarried ones.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

They are more emotional than men and usually do not have the responsibility of dependents. In Germany they have been carried away by the wave of strikes which has passed over the land since the revolution. Even hospital nurses have been involved in such movements, and have fought side by side with other hospital attendants. It is of course true that their position was a very sad one, and that they have been much neglected by social reform and legislation. Over-work and pocket-money wages have been the reward of this profession, and with the growth of advantages in other sorts of work, the class of girls from whom the nursing profession must draw its members has gradually changed. The old spirit of high self-sacrifice still lives in the Christian Nursing Orders, and in individual nurses. But more and more nurses in general have tended to organize for the amelioration of their working conditions and for securing a living wage. Since the revolution they have made great strides. In fact a council of mediation has awarded them an eight-hour day, and salaries equal to or more than those of many high officials. Certainly all intelligent people must wish them every alleviation in their difficult and responsible work; but it cannot be doubted that they have overstretched the bow. Their terms have already had the effect that many private hospitals and nursing homes have had to be closed. During a time of general poverty no one can afford to pay the price which must be charged to meet such expenses. But what is much worse for the great mass of the people is that even the municipal hospitals suffer seriously from these new pretensions. In any case, these conditions of work, together with the high cost of building, make it impossible for any municipality to undertake the costs of establishing new hospitals. Considering the bad state of public health, this is a serious calamity, and the nurses' struggle has already borne fruits which are a menace to their patients.

In quite a different way has the association of social work-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ers worked for betterment in this field. This is, though one of the youngest, perhaps the most interesting association of educated working women. Founded during the war, when the demand for professional social workers was great, and schools for social work sprang rapidly into existence, its first and main object was to secure better conditions of work: a living wage, fixed hours, holidays and reliable contracts. But from the very beginning the leaders were convinced of the responsibility of their profession, convinced that the ends they sought must under all circumstances be reached by peaceful means. Meanwhile, social work as a profession has undergone considerable change. The number of professional workers in private institutions and agencies is continually decreasing because of the general economic collapse. On the other hand the public authorities are compelled to "socialize" and increase the number of "social officials." These are, like all officials, decently paid. However, great difficulties have arisen from the relations of these social workers, burdened for the most part, with the responsibility of the task laid upon them. These persons, accustomed to a technical routine, are often unable to understand special and individual needs as social workers must do, and the special requests they must make in the interest of their charges. The association of social workers has come to realize that one of their present concerns must be a reclassification of officials, which will guarantee them a dignified position within the administration. They refuse to strike, though petty officialdom tries to compel their support on these occasions. They refuse, too, to be placed under petty officials, who cannot judge either the aim or method of their work. They are striving to be placed directly under the heads of departments. They fight, likewise, for the principle that social workers should be chosen because of their capabilities and not because of their political views, which is the imminent danger of a new democracy. They are the best evidence we have of

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

what educated women may mean and may attain in the establishment of a new social and economic order. They can be willing adherents of a movement which tries to secure better conditions of work and living for those who formerly were exploited and oppressed. But they should not forget the end for the means, nor the object and aim of work in the interest of the workers.

It may prove a blessing that the conditions under which women entered professional work in Germany led them to form associations of their own. Perhaps this has made them more independent in their attitude toward present-day conflict. For many of them their work means more than the source of their economic existence. Wherever there is an opportunity of imbuing an economic movement with loyalty and moral principle, there will always be women in the front ranks.

A SONG OF LIGHT

By MARGUERITE WILKINSON

Oh, I would be as clear as air
  And I would be like water, clear,
That lovely light may shine through me
  On shadowed ignorance and fear.

How can I think, how can I hope,
  How can I dream that this may be,
I, who am dull within the flesh
  And clouded with mortality?

How can I dare to ask this thing
  Who know such glory burns its way
Through doubt and terror and doom and tears
  Into the everlasting day?

O strong Eternal Light, because
  I love the radiance that I fear
Let me become as clear as air
  And let me be like water, clear.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

JOHN ERICSSON

By GUNNAR WICKMAN

AT Langbanshyttan, outside Filipstad, Vermland, Sweden, in the latter part of the seventeenth century a poor cripple living on the Jugström's estate, while on his deathbed said that he had been visited by a wood-gnome who told him that for the kindness which had been shown to him all his life by the Jugström family there would be born to the family two boys whose names would be known the world over. Sofia Jugström, some time later, married Olof Ericsson and had three children: Karolina born 1800, Nils born 1802 and John born 1803. Nils, later made a baron, became a noted civil engineer who built canals, railroads and public works in Sweden.

John always learned faster than his tutors could teach him. He possessed the impulse of genius and once his mind was set in any direction nothing could divert him from it. Before he was fourteen years old he was foreman on a section of the Göta Kanal with six hundred army engineers under him. He was so small in stature that he had to have a stool to raise him to the eye-piece of his theodolite! In spite of the remonstrances of his friends, especially his mentor baron Baltzar Bogislaus von Platen, the builder of the Göta Kanal, who finally told him to "Go to the Devil," and although Ericsson enjoyed the perfect confidence of his superiors and could look forward to a brilliant career as a canal constructor, he resigned his position and entered as ensign in the Jemtland Rifles Regiment. At that time an officer was not occupied by his duties more than a comparatively short time of the year. Consequently Ericsson found

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ample time for further studies. During this period of his life Ericsson began his real career as an inventor. He began to consider the question whether steam could not be replaced by some other and cheaper motive power, a problem which thereafter occupied his mind during his whole life. As a result of his first attempts to solve the problem he invented his so-called Flame-Engine, which created great interest among the leading minds of the day. In order to exploit and develop this invention he went to England in 1826.

There he met the Honorable Francis B. Ogden, United States Consul, who became a great admirer of his, and when Ericsson some years later showed him his design of a propeller and a working model in a tank of water and further trials on a larger scale, Mr. Ogden raised funds, to which he personally contributed, to construct a tug-boat on the Thames River, forty-five feet long, eight feet beam and three feet draft with two propellers, for demonstration purposes.

In 1837 Robert F. Stockton, U. S. N. retired, a resident of Princeton, N. J., visited England to raise money for the Delaware and Raritan Canal in New Jersey, in which his own and his family's fortunes were invested. He called on Consul Ogden, who was also from New Jersey, and Ogden introduced him to Ericsson as a man who might be of value to him in designing machinery and vessels, not only for his canal but for the United States Navy. Ericsson invited Stockton to take a trip up the Thames on the "Francis B. Ogden," and disclosed to him his ideas as to a new type of battleship to be built of iron instead of wood, to be driven by steam instead of the wind, and he then pointed out to him also the value of having a screw propeller instead of paddle wheels, thus enabling the engines and all the machinery to be below the water line safe from cannon shot. Stockton at once appreciated the merits of Ericsson's ideas and accepted the invitation, and became so impressed with what he saw that he gave Ericsson an order for a tug-boat

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of iron, seventy feet long, ten feet beam, three feet draft and a fifty horse power engine with propeller direct connected. This was the first vessel so designed.

On March third, 1839, Congress passed a bill authorizing the building of three ships of war. There were no steam vessels in the navy then, and the naval officers opposed them, claiming that vessels could not be maneuvered in battle by steam power. Stockton assured Ericsson however that he would secure the order for one of them, and that he would have Ericsson design it according to the plans they had discussed. On the strength of this assurance Ericsson built a working model of the engine and propeller, also a twelve inch gun of wrought iron with bands shrunk on, and resigning his position with the firm, he sailed for New York on board the "Great Western." Arriving November twenty third, 1839, he settled at the Astor House.

The middle thirties of the last century saw Martin Van Buren President of this great nation, William L. Marcy, Governor of the State of New York, and Aaron Clark, Mayor of New York City. At the time, New York was sparsely settled above Canal street, and the section called Greenwich Village was only a thriving suburb. Stages plied between it and the Battery, carrying those who lived in the former down to business and back again every day. At this time there lived at three hundred and eighty seven Washington Street, one James Cunningham, who had come from Boston—a rich banker whose daughter later married D. O. Mills of San Francisco. Cunningham established with Adam Hall the Phoenix Foundry on West Street. Associated with them were William DeLamater, confidential adviser, and Cornelius DeLamater.

After Ericsson had located himself in New York, Mr. Samuel Risley, one of the Greenwich Village mechanics who had been recommended to him locally, became his draughtsman and proposed that he give his work to the Phoenix Foundry.

In 1842 Stockton secured the order for the iron frigate

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

which he named the "Princeton," after his birthplace, and he commissioned Ericsson to do the engineering work of designing the engines and hull. The Princeton, so far as every detail of construction by Ericsson was concerned, was an absolute success. One of the saddest occurrences, however, in the history of the United States Navy happened on one of her trial trips, February twenty-eighth, 1844. Ericsson had constructed in England, and brought with him to this country, a twelve inch wrought iron gun of his own design, with the butt reinforced with heavy wrought iron bands shrunk on. It had been subjected to the severest tests. Stockton, however, wanted something of his own on the vessel and conceived the idea of having a wrought iron gun of one piece from the largest forging that could be made at the Hammersley forge near Washington. Ericsson protested that the design was faulty, but Stockton insisted, and it was made and placed on the forward deck. Ericsson called his gun the "Oregon" after the state whose northern boundary at the time was under dispute with England. Stockton called his the "Peacemaker."

As the work proceeded, Stockton posed more and more as the man responsible for the design of the vessel, and Ericsson was relegated out of sight. In January, 1844, Stockton brought the Princeton from Philadelphia to New York to receive the machinery which was made by Ericsson, and then prepared to sail for Washington, where he proposed to exhibit her to the government authorities as the most modern type of war vessel. Stockton took very good care always to have Ericsson in the background. Stockton told Ericsson the Princeton would stop for him at the Battery on her way to Washington. Ericsson was on hand at the place but the Princeton, with Stockton on board, forgot (?) to stop and take Ericsson, the real creator of this modern war vessel, aboard!

The Princeton reached Washington safely, and Stockton invited President Tyler, his Cabinet, and the various departments of the government to visit him, and finally

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

gave a grand reception to all the authorities, including both Houses of Congress with their families. Over four hundred guests were on board, including the President, and several members of the Cabinet, the Congress, and many distinguished citizens. The vessel was gay with bunting, the weather was fine, and the occasion was made a gala day. She sailed down the Potomac to Mount Vernon. The guns were repeatedly fired. On the return, when about two miles from Washington, all hands were invited below for refreshments. Everybody was in high feather over the successful trip. President Tyler offered a toast to his host: "The three big guns of the Navy—The Oregon, the Peacemaker, and Captain Stockton—the greatest of which is the Captain."

At this, someone proposed that Captain Stockton fire his gun once more, but he refused, saying the demonstration was over. The Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Gilmer, was appealed to, and his acquiescence being deemed an order, instructions were issued accordingly. While arrangements were being made, several left the tables to witness the preparations. The entertainment proceeded, however, more toasts were drunk, one to the President—and finally Mrs. Wickliffe, wife of the Postmaster General, proposed "The American Flag, the only thing American that will bear stripes"—and then the firing of the gun was heard. After a silence there followed cries and groans. The gun had exploded with the most disastrous results. The Secretary of the Navy, Thomas W. Gilmer, the Secretary of State, Abel P. Upshur, Commodore Kennon, Chief of Construction of the Navy, Honorable Virgil Maxey, American Minister to Belgium, and Colonel David Gardner were killed instantly. Senator Benton of Missouri and fourteen sailors were more or less seriously injured. Captain Stockton himself, who stood on the breach of the gun, had his hair burned off and was thrown from his place and momentarily stunned. Meanwhile word was conveyed below of the extent of the terrible disaster and consternation fell upon the party, many

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of whom were suddenly bereft of their relatives. It seemed that the President had been deterred from going on deck only by the offering of the toast in his honor, and his wife and son were attracted by a song which someone started, and stayed below. The Secretary of War, Mr. Wilkins, was on deck, but just before the gun was fired, remarked that he did not trust it and went to the stern of the vessel and so escaped injury.

Ericsson was greatly affected by the news, which he received in New York—first, of the complete assumption of credit for the design of the vessel by Stockton and the suppression of all reference to himself in that connection, and second, of the tragic result of Stockton's insistence on making the contribution of his gun to the equipment of the vessel. But what was Ericsson's dismay and indignation to learn later that Stockton had placed the blame for the disaster on him! Ericsson's friends were not slow in bringing to the attention of the authorities the evidence of his protests against the acceptance of the Stockton gun, but so strong was Captain Stockton's influence in the Navy Department, that he prevented Ericsson from receiving any payment for his services or for the two years' time spent in developing what was probably the greatest development in naval construction ever made at one time. So strong was the prejudice established by Stockton against Ericsson that the latter received no further orders from the government for nearly twenty years, and was almost prevented from saving the country at a most critical time.

Ericsson had been put to the expense of travel and hotel accommodation in Philadelphia, the making of drawings and experimental machinery, and had given up time during two years which he could have devoted to other work which would have remunerated him. To such extreme financial stress was he subjected that he gave up his quarters at the Astor House and rented a small house at ninety-five Franklin street, where he moved with his wife and where, after deliberating over the situation, the latter de-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

cided to return to her native land, England, till her husband could regain his financial footing. Unfortunately they never met again.

Relieved of immediate distress by the generosity of Cornelius DeLamater, Ericsson set about redeeming his impaired reputation and finances.

By this time the relationship between Mr. DeLamater and Captain Ericsson had become very close. Although Ericsson never held any financial interest in the works, Mr. DeLamater depended entirely upon Ericsson's opinion in all engineering matters, and the latter looked to Mr. DeLamater to pass upon all questions of business entering into his various engineering ventures, and neither charged the other for the benefit of his advice. The works were open to Captain Ericsson to carry out his experiments without cost and Captain Ericsson made no charge for developing designs and drawings or for services rendered to meet the demands of the works. The two men were like brothers throughout their lives, one depending upon the other's strength to supplement his own weakness.

In 1848 Ericsson, feeling himself a fixture in this country, became a naturalized citizen. He was five feet, eight inches tall, broad shouldered, and long bodied from his waist up, so that when sitting he gave the impression of being tall. He weighed one hundred and seventy-eight pounds and was extraordinarily strong.

In 1858, Mr. DeLamater changed the name of the works to The DeLamater Iron Works.

In the spring of 1861 when the Civil War began to threaten, DeLamater was forty years old and Ericsson fifty-eight, and both were in prime vigor. They discussed the situation and set out to devote their potential means to serving their country. In 1854, during the Crimean War, Ericsson had sent to Napoleon III a model and plans of a turreted armored war vessel. Napoleon did nothing with them, but he showed his appreciation of them by sending Ericsson a letter of acknowledgment and a large gold

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

medal. Mr. DeLamater, knowing of this, went to Washington and conferred with Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles regarding the building of armored vessels for the Navy.

Meanwhile, Stephen R. Mallory, then Secretary of the Navy of the Confederacy, who had been a champion of Ericsson while chairman of the Naval Committee in Congress, proposed the building of iron clad vessels for the Confederate Navy. The old United States Frigate Merrimac, three thousand five hundred tons and with forty guns, had been abandoned and sunk at the Norfolk Navy Yard in April, 1861, when Norfolk was captured. The Confederate Navy floated her, and had her covered with wrought iron. Word was spread that this armored vessel would capture every northern port, destroy the commerce and compel the surrender of Washington. Driven to action, Congress passed an act approving the building of several armored vessels and calling for designs and bids. Mr. DeLamater tried to persuade Ericsson to submit a design for a turreted armor clad vessel, like the one he made for Napoleon, but Ericsson realized the prejudice still existing against him in the Navy since the Stockton episode. He knew that the naval authorities were fully aware of his capabilities, and although they had invited all sorts of people who were politically in the limelight to assist them, they had totally ignored him, and he did not want to subject himself to the possibility of a rebuff. Mr. DeLamater argued that a letter addressed direct to the President would insure him a fair hearing, and accordingly a letter was written and dispatched to President Lincoln. This letter offered simply the services of Ericsson to his country in its time of peril, stressed the importance of steel-clad vessels to protect the northern ports, and the writer's ability to cope with all naval engineering problems. In it Ericsson stated he sought no remuneration, and begged of the President:

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

> Please look carefully at the enclosed plans. You will find that the means I propose to employ are very simple—so simple, indeed, that within ten weeks after commencing the structure, I would engage to be ready to take up a position under the rebel guns at Norfolk, and so efficient, too, I trust, that within a few hours the stolen ships would be sunk and the harbor purged of traitors.

One of the first sets of plans recommended for adoption by the Board was presented by C. S. Bushnell, and he was awarded a contract to build the vessel known as the "Galena." He consulted DeLamater, many of the naval men having doubted her ability to carry the stipulated amount of iron protective plate. Mr. DeLamater advised him to confer with Ericsson, whose opinion he was satisfied would settle the matter definitely and correctly. He called on Ericsson, laid the matter before him, and was requested to return the next day for his verdict. It was entirely favorable. Captain Ericsson then produced his duplicates of the model and plans of the iron clad steamer he had sent to Napoleon. He found a most willing champion in Bushnell, and gave him both plans and model to present at Washington.

Bushnell, knowing that Secretary of the Navy Welles was at Hartford, proceeded there by first train. The Secretary urged all possible dispatch to have the plans submitted before the Board, and the next day Bushnell was in Washington. He was joined by John A. Griswold and John F. Winslow, both of Troy, and friends of Secretary Seward. The latter gave them a strong letter to President Lincoln, who went with them to the Navy Department the next morning. Confronted with the novelty of the proposal, some advised trying it, while others ridiculed it, calling the model a "Cheese box on a raft." It was at this conference that President Lincoln remarked: "All I have to say is what the girl said when she stuck her foot in the stocking: 'It strikes me there's something in it.'" The next day, however, the Board condemned the plan. Bushnell labored with them, and won over Admirals Smith and Paulding, who promised to report favorably if Captain Davis would

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

join them. Captain Davis, however, told Bushnell to "take the little thing home and worship it, as it would not be idolatry, because it was in the image of nothing in the heaven above, or on the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth."

Bushnell felt the only way to succeed was to have Captain Ericsson present in Washington. He came to New York, saw Mr. DeLamater, and together they went to Ericsson's home to interview him. The exact facts were not given to Ericsson, but he was told that some explanations were needed that he alone could make. He went to Washington that night. As soon as he appeared before the Board, he was told that his plans had been rejected. His indignation impelled him to withdraw at once, but he stopped long enough to ask why they had come to that conclusion. He was told that the vessel lacked stability. His technical skill being impugned, he explained with elaborate demonstration and so convincingly that Admiral Paulding said frankly and generously: "Sir, I have learned more about the stability of a vessel from what you have said than I ever knew before." Ericsson was told the next day by Secretary Welles that a contract would be awarded, and was asked to proceed at once with the work. Captain Ericsson worked day and night on the plans. The contract was signed October twenty-fifth, 1861, the keel was laid by Thomas F. Rowland at the Continental Iron Works, Greenpoint, Long Island, on the same day. Steam was applied to the engines at the DeLamater Iron Works, December thirtieth. Captain Ericsson's work during those three months was herculean. Not only the necessary labors, but the worries from continued doubts from Washington, required almost superhuman power.

The "Monitor" left New York harbor March sixth, 1862, commanded by Lieutenant Commander John L. Worden, arriving at Hampton Roads on the morning of the ninth, and before the sun set that day the world famous battle of the Monitor and the Merrimac was fought.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The success of the Monitor naturally focused the attention of the United States government on Ericsson and the DeLamater Iron Works, and within a week they received a proposition to build six vessels of the same design but of various sizes, some of them much larger than the Monitor.

The works became not only nationally but internationally known, and were a Mecca for inventors and promoters and anyone who had an idea to be developed. Many an impecunious inventor was welcomed there, encouraged, the difficulties under which he was laboring removed, and success brought to his efforts.

Captain Ericsson died on March eighth, 1889, nearly eighty-six years old.

It was not until August twenty-third, 1890, that arrangements were completed between the Swedish and United States governments for the removal of Captain Ericsson's remains to his native land. New York City made the day notable. The *New York Times* of the following day devoted nearly a full page to its accounts of the occasion. Excerpts from its columns read:

> When the remains with the accompanying party came on board the cruiser Baltimore, Mr. George H. Robinson, speaking for the United States government, addressed Captain Schley in part as follows:
>
> "Captain Schley, in the nation's tribute to our illustrious dead, the simple duty falls to us to yield to the claims of his mother country, that she may again receive her son. We send him back crowned with honor, proud of the life of fifty years he devoted to this nation, and with gratitude for the gifts he gave us.
>
> "Was he a dreamer? Yes. He dreamed of the practical application of screw propulsion, and the commerce of the world was revolutionized. He dreamed of making naval warfare more terrible and the Monitor was built. Again he dreamed, and the Destroyer with its submarine gun was born. He dreamed of the possibilities of obtaining power from air at high temperature, and behold ten thousand caloric engines. He dreamed of the sun's rays in sandy deserts where water was hard to get, and the solar engine came; and so he dreamed and worked for seventy years."

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE FUTURE OF BOLSHEVISM

By J. J. SEDERHOLM

ONLY an oracle whose words could be interpreted in different ways could give the proper answer as to the future of Bolshevism and the future of Russia. Prophecies have been reiteratedly made about the immediate collapse of Bolshevism only to be each time contradicted by facts.

The last time that the stock of Soviet was again very low was at the time of the Cronstadt events. The mutinous mariners were spoken of as if they were champions of the "white" cause in Russia, perhaps even of Czarism, while in fact most of them belonged to the reddest of the "reds," and could rather be designated as ultra-revolutionary than as counter-revolutionists. At their meetings where the talk flowed eloquently in Russian fashion, communism and the tyranny of Lenin were condemned and anarchistic freedom praised, but no objections were made to the Soviet system as such. And when it came to fighting, one of the strongest fortresses of the world was easily taken by the attacking Soviet infantry, after but very little preparative artillery fire.

On the other side the victories of the Bolsheviks ought not to be overrated. They are masters in bluffing, and wish always to keep the world restless by news about their great successes or imminent offensives. In the great war against Poland there were hardly two hundred thousand fighting men on the Russian side, and the immense million armies of the Soviet exist only on paper. At the same time, when the rumor was spread abroad that the Bolsheviks were

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

gathering five hundred thousand horses for an offensive in the spring, the Soviet was unable to bring together and nourish the tenth part of that number of horses, for the purpose of carting wood to freezing Moscow and Petrograd.

Against its adversaries abroad, the Soviet will use the dagger of treachery rather than the sword of the warrior, and threats rather than strokes. Propaganda work is one of the few industries in Russia which is in a flourishing state.

But at home propaganda alone will fail at the end, if always contradicted by eloquent facts. The proof of the pudding is in the eating, and after having promised to the Russian people all kinds of blessings, the Bolsheviks are not able to offer to it any pudding at all, but only blank starvation. The food question has been developing from bad to worse and is now in an almost hopeless condition.

The endeavors to organize on the nationalized larger estates modern farming on a great scale, but according to communistic principles, at once utterly failed. The fields of the great estates as well as many of those belonging to wealthier peasants, were divided between the country proletariat, but as those produced only for their own needs, no surplus of production was available. The Soviet officials tried to invent all kinds of extortions, in order to squeeze out from the peasants the food necessary to keep the town alive. They succeeded in extracting more in 1920 than in any earlier year, in spite of the failure of the crop. But the result was that the distress is still worse, at the present moment, in the country than in the towns. At the present moment the rich "black soil" of the Ukraine is unable to produce enough bread for her inhabitants and the ruthless Tche-Ka, the almighty secret police of the Soviet, is obliged to turn to northern Caucasus and Siberia in order to be able to extort any grain.

For a long time the Soviet did not abate a whit its communistic principles. Every kind of private commerce was strictly prohibited, and the fiction was held up that

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

everything which the peasants produced belonged to the state. The seventh Soviet congress still tried to increase the slavery of the peasantry and to make them simply tools in the hands of the government. This plan included the responsibility for procuring the grain, and an infinity of Soviet officials tried to collect it from the farmers. The result of the campaign was that only twelve percent of the quantity necessary, thirty million pounds instead of two hundred and twenty, was obtained. The passive resistance of the peasantry became stronger and stronger, and before their obstinate production strike the Soviet government was at last forced to surrender.

Two months after the eighth congress which went to the extreme in a communistic direction, a new Soviet congress, the tenth in order, suddenly entirely dropped the communistic politics against the peasants and resolved to return free trade to a certain extent. The forced delivery of agricultural products was abandoned, and instead of that taxes in kind demanded to a lower amount than the former tribute. Also these taxes gradually were to be substituted by a free exchange against industrial products delivered by the government. As long as these could not be got in sufficient quantity from the Russian factories, they were to be purchased from abroad. The collective responsibility of the village communities was abolished. Every peasant was to have the right to trade freely with his surplus production. Bazaars and markets were opened again.

By all commerce the co-operative business organizations were to be favored, in order to hinder profiteering. On the other hand, however, the formation and development of individual farms, untied from the dependence of the village communities were to be encouraged. These measures contemplate a return to the tradition of the agrarian politics of Stolypin who tried to create in Russia a class of independent farmers. It would really be a strange trick of ironical fate, if the net result of Bolshevism would be

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the destruction of the most typical communistic institution existing in Europe, the Russian *mir* or village community!

The Soviet press proclaims the success of the newly inaugurated politics whose first result has been a lowering of the food prices from ten to fifteen percent. In Moscow a cucumber may now be bought for a trifle of two thousand rubles! But these agrarian reforms in an anti-communistic direction arrive too late.

Will the concessions to the peasants save Bolshevism?

By those concessions to the interests of the peasantry which forms eighty-five percent of the population of Russia her present tyrants hope to retain their power. They prefer to sacrifice their principles, at least for a time, and are willing to return to free trade also in their relations with foreign countries, in order to save their own lives, and the future of Bolshevism.

No doubt the small minority of communists who hold their ruthless sway over Russia are heartily hated, and if they should lose the grasp of power many of them would probably be killed like mad dogs. At any time new outbreaks of insurrections against the Bolshevik government are possible, and a successful political murder may possibly now, as it often did during the Czaristic régime, suddenly change many things in Russia. But the Soviet system as such, government by councils, is by no means unpopular. Also the officers of the Cronstadt army who fled to Finland declare that most Russians prefer a Soviet system to a parliamentary government. The idea of a constitutive assembly is preached abroad by cadets, who are generals without an army, and by the more numerous members of the social-revolutionary party. The communistic laborers, now changed into a governing bureaucracy or a kind of revolutionary nobility, and the peasantry, are the two great powers of Russia. The latter is unorganized, and both have a tendency to anarchy which makes them prefer a system where the lowest *tchornyi-rabotnik* or "black laborer" is equal to the leader of a great

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

industrial plant. The time of a monarchical restoration in Russia seems to lie in a remote future.

While trying to appease the discontent at home the Bolsheviks will continue to sow dragons' teeth abroad. In the same measure as their own situation becomes more and more desperate, in face of the steady decrease of all kinds of necessaries, they will see their only hope in world revolution. They will try to hold the world in continuous unrest, by instigating new strike, insurrections, or revolutions, no matter if those are successful or not, and by a steady menace of war. The Bolsheviks dream about the time when Trotzky, like a new Napoleon, may send his victorious armies out over Europe. However, it may be said that it will be a long, long time before that happens, and at the present, when Russia with her destroyed communication system is like a man whose sclerotic arteries are very near to yielding, a successful war with a modern army, however small, is out of the question. In the north, Finland, with an army of thirty-five thousand men in peace, and with more than one hundred thousand White Guards drilled like soldiers, still stands as a rampart against Bolshevism. Against those forces also the undermining work of Bolshevism, which tries to rekindle the fire of civil war, has no possibility of success, and having already learned to know the hard fists of the Finlanders in Finland and Esthonia, the Bolsheviks have no great desire to renew that acquaintance. In the Baltic countries the conditions are somewhat different. The socialists are here more powerful and are almost communistic at home, when it is a question of dividing the estates of the Baltic barons. But they prefer to do this alone, and would not like to share them with the starving Russians, nor to allow these to invade their countries, like a hungry swarm of grasshoppers. As to the Poles, their eager nationalism has been much increased during the last Russian offensive, when the Polish peasants suffered so much. The Bolsheviks know them-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

selves that a new offensive against the west might easily mean the end of their power also in Russia.

At the same time, a new war would make it impossible to continue the trade with western Europe which the Soviet has begun and which is indispensable to Russia, if she shall not perish for want of necessities. The beginning of that trade has been almost in the fashion in which Europeans trade with the South Sea Islanders, each party leaving their merchandise at the shore where it is taken over by the other party. As trade develops further, however, a certain amount of righteousness will become necessary, and thus out of lawless Bolshevism may gradually come a state bounded by law in its relations to other countries.

Either we will witness the evolution of the present communistic and despotically ruled Russia into a state governed according to laws and respecting international agreements, or new revolutions and more anarchy will follow.

No prophecy about Russia is more true than that which was made by H. G. Wells in his "Anticipations," years before the present mutual admiration between him and the Soviet began: that Russia will long continue to be the Ghetto of Europe. She is already in such a state that she is unable to rise without help from abroad to reconstruct her railroads and to give her agriculturists the means to cultivate their farms again.

Bolshevism is in a decaying state—that conclusion seems certain, but it is not yet possible to decide whether it will vanish merely by being untrue to itself and developing into it will meet a violent destruction by the forces which it something very different from its original ideals, or whether has conjured up and cannot itself dominate.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

AMERICA'S FOREIGN TRADE

By J. HERBERT ANDERSON

EVERY man, woman, and child in the United States is concerned in imports and exports. The question of international prosperity cannot be left to classes or sections. Laborers, producers, manufacturers, distributors, bankers, are just as seriously interested as are those who trade in foreign fields. It is a question of good business versus bad business; of rational living costs; fair prices for the things we must buy; of reasonable rates of taxation.

Just now the scales of the foreign buyer happen to tip one way—ours the other. He is troubled with too great a load on one side—we with too great a load on the other. But we are both striving for the same thing: "Balance." We can see therefore that the problem is world size. For us it is a nation size problem, and also a nation size job, which must be worked out. The individual must look beyond immediate personal profits and see the benefits which will come from a general prosperity, without which apparent profits may mean nothing more satisfying or important than a few entries upon the books of his business.

The returns will be worth while in dollars and cents, not the dollars and cents which during the past three or four years came and deluded us with a false sense of prosperity and then disappeared in thin air apparently—but dollars and cents which will be safe and real because they will reflect a part of the larger and continuing prosperity of a nation.

Education plays an important part in the development

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of foreign trade. Yet there is nothing mysterious about its requirements. Fundamentally, its problems are the same as those of the domestic trade. The main difference is that these problems are approached from a different angle and assume a different relative importance.

The most important factor and the prime essential of foreign trade is a knowledge of the market and of the foreign customer. The acquisition of this knowledge, is extremely difficult at times. The newspapers are almost completely silent with respect to the foreign news that is valuable to those in foreign trade. As foreign customers differ in language, religion, customs, and prejudices from those at home, the need for a sounder knowledge of them and of the world beyond our borders is of vital importance because of the unique position which America now occupies.

The European trader has relatively little difficulty in acquiring an international point of view. He lives, as it were, in an international atmosphere. His country is relatively small. Usually a few hours will carry him across its borders. Geography and foreign languages are real and living to him. He has a wholesome respect for citizens of other countries. Our competitors abroad, therefore, absorb the international point of view early in life and learn to associate world events with their business.

In the United States the international atmosphere is entirely lacking. The estimate of three-quarters of our people as to foreign nations is based upon acquaintance with the immigrant, unskilled workman. We are facing a new world, therefore. The opportunities which now open before America of becoming an international power, commercially and spiritually, find us educationally unprepared. It is therefore necessary to courageously tackle the problem and thus benefit commercially by creating a more favorable atmosphere for foreign trade development, while at the same time contributing our share for better international understanding.

No modern nation, however rich, can live prosperously

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

without foreign trade. But foreign trade from its very nature cannot be purely national; it must be international. It is necessary, therefore, for the United States and its individual citizens, if they are to act intelligently, to consider some trade questions not solely from the standpoint of international relationship, but from the larger standpoint of relations to the rest of the world. Any other study is out of harmony with the fundamental nature of foreign trade activities, and is not likely to promote much permanent success. To get proper international value, therefore, it is necessary first to get the facts which are significant to foreign trade, and then to take care of subsequent judgments, which are made in the light of these facts. Breadth of vision would naturally follow, and is the vital element which characterizes the international point of view.

Foreign trade should always be viewed from the position of buying as well as selling, and while we naturally aim to dispose of more goods than we purchase in the adjustments of international balances, our foreign trade will languish and become stagnant if we do not tap the sources of supply in each country so as to set up and establish, to the greatest extent possible, a healthy movement of goods and commodities from each of the respective countries with which we aim to do business.

Fifty years ago over eighty percent of the United States exports were raw materials and food stuffs. Less than twenty percent were manufactures. Today seventy percent of our exports are manufactures, including manufactured food stuffs, and less than thirty percent are raw materials or food stuffs in crude condition.

The export situation today is a complete reversal of the export conditions fifty years ago. Then the value of United States exports was less than four hundred million dollars. In 1919 exports were valued at eight billion dollars. The high peak of the country's export trade was nine hundred and twenty-eight million dollars in June 1919. In October 1920 it was seven hundred and fifty-one million dollars.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

In March 1921, there was a drop to three hundred and eighty-four million dollars.

Today the United States produces more than it consumes. About one-fifth of our total production must be exported or else not produced. If we fail to produce we face industrial depression or unemployment. Without export, higher prices are inevitable, because we know that full production reduces unit cost. Under present conditions, Americans work at a disadvantage. As a whole, we do not take the trouble to analyze foreign markets, even to the degree that we study home conditions. Too often when it comes to foreign sales we adopt the "take it or leave it" attitude. The manufacturer turns his product over to a foreign selling agent and expects him to make good. He fails to back up this selling agent, supply him with sufficient information and suitable tools to sell. The results are naturally and inevitably disappointing.

Exports we must have, and imports, too—because the logical answer to export is, and will continue to be, import. The one calls for the other. It will be a great mistake to allow them to get away from each other. They belong together, are necessary details in the process of world trade. If we talk about export without reference to import, we are treating only a part of the situation, seeing only a part of the picture. The important thing is balance. Any tendency away from the condition of balance suggests a possibility of danger, of disproportion, of things which must be overcome or removed. The surplus which cannot be disposed of profitably is worse than no surplus at all. It takes up space and time, and clogs the wheel of national progress. Business must go on from one end to the other if it is to remain healthy. We have a surplus of products of various kinds, raw, partly finished, and finished, and we must continue to have such surplus unless we find a market abroad for it. True, we might destroy or limit the operations of a part of our machinery of production; but to do this would be plain absurdity, business suicide, would

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

mean stagnation with all the attendant evils, including dislocation of enterprise, with unemployment, human suffering, and always the danger of social and political unrest.

For some years we have been producing more than can be consumed in the domestic market, but new needs will be discovered, new tastes acquired. Population will grow larger. Buying power will become greater, standards of living go up, all of which will tend to increase domestic consumption. Nevertheless the increase of production almost certainly will outrun any possible increase in domestic consumption. The meaning then is obvious. In the plain, ordinary, every day operation of existing forces, movement in this country is headed irresistibly towards continuing and increasing surplus of product which must be disposed of abroad.

To curtail export would mean the stopping of wheels which should go around. We cannot afford to trifle with serious things. The evils which come with suspended business activity are all too well known. Prosperity means intelligent activity, and this requires not only production, but also a market for what we produce.

INCONSISTENCY

By HELENE MULLINS

I cannot understand why God
Who bestowed upon me
A lofty mind,
Strong hands,
And solid dreams—
Should give me
A heart that would break.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE ALLIANCE OF CAPITAL AND FARMER

By GUSTAVUS MYERS

DURING its long struggle to obtain improved conditions, industrial labor had widespread support. To the fair-minded its demands for shorter work hours, better wages, and the abolition of various abuses seemed altogether reasonable. Beginning before the Civil War this movement made a gradual but great headway. Classes that were not directly concerned in the conflict sympathized with labor's aims. The tone of the labor movement was of a humanitarian character. Its leaders stressed the point that the raising of labor's living standards would conduce to the benefit of all society. The emphasis upon this caused it to be accepted as a fixed principle.

On the other hand the policies of capital tended to repel all who aspired to a more democratic and a juster order. The capitalist still retained some of the feudal ideas of master and serf. He arrogated to himself the right of organization. But he declined to recognize the right of labor to organize. In some places laws were enacted construing labor unions to be criminal conspiracies. The factory laborer was kept to his task twelve hours a day or more; the artisan had to work from sunrise to sunset for paltry wages. There was the bitterest opposition to granting a ten hour work day. The methods of capital too often shocked public sentiment. The imposition of spurious and adulterated products was common. Bribery revelations were frequent.

In such conditions the capitalist seemed to be the selfish sordid factor, concerned only in enriching himself at the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

expense of the other sections of society. Labor stood out not only as the oppressed but as fighting manfully for worthy ideals. The professional classes sympathized with the labor movement. In many cases they powerfully supported it by voice and pen. The farmer did not accept labor's cause as his own, but at least he regarded it favorably. Busily engaged in fighting railroad, trust, and other abuses the farmer viewed the enemies of labor as his own.

"The interests of rural and civic labor are the same; their enemies are identical", declared the 1892 platform of the Populist Party which was an outgrowth of the Farmers' Alliance. To show the farmer's indorsement of the labor movement at that time we need only quote further from that platform. "The urban workmen are denied the right to organize for self-protection, imported pauperized labor beats down their wages, a hireling standing army, unrecognized by our law is established to shoot them down, and they are rapidly degenerating into European conditions."

The transition from the farmer's attitude of that time to his present hostile view of the labor movement is one of the most striking and significant in our social history. Where then he looked upon industrial labor as oppressed he now considers it as an oppressor. His fear of thirty years ago that it would be vanquished has been transformed into a genuine alarm at its overreaching power. His former approval of labor's purpose and standards has changed to one of caustic strictures and deep antagonism. Looking back a quarter of a century and less we see the farmer passionately denouncing railroads, trusts, financiers and monopolies. But what do we now see? The farmer is either silent about capital or comparatively mild in his criticisms, except regarding such institutions as grain and cotton exchanges. But as to labor unions he is both outspoken and severe. As a class he is now decisively arrayed against them.

What accounts for this great change? In some quarters the explanation is advanced that adroit propaganda has poisoned the farmer's mind; that this attitude is the cul-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

mination of a campaign to influence the farmer against the city worker. Such a charge is mere presumption. It assumes that farmers as a body are not intelligent. It further assumes that farmers do not know the difference between assertion and news, between fiction and fact. They do know the difference and know it well. Their life is one of dealing with grim realities.

The most concentrated kind of propaganda could not have had a fraction the effect upon the farmer's mind that the acts of the labor unions themselves have had. Upon them he has formed his judgment. In its first stages the labor movement sought the favor of public opinion. It welcomed the support of other groups or classes. It was energetic without being overbearing. The farmer was deeply impressed by its arguments and promises. Shorter work hours and higher pay would mean a superior working class. With the drudgery of a long day effaced, labor would be able to do better and more conscientious work. It would have more leisure for mental cultivation. It would supplant the low practices of the business world with its own elevated standards. So labor leaders persistently said. The farmer believed them. He saw to what a flagrant extent political and corporation corruption went and thought that when that was once controlled we would have purity. The moral as well as the economic program of the labor movement appealed to the farmer.

Point by point this illusion was dispelled. At the very time before the war when labor unions were boasting of their great strength and threatening on every occasion to use it, they were undermining their own prestige. Their leaders did not know it. Their eyes were fixed entirely upon the magnitude of their numerical following. That, they believed, constituted their power. Economically it did, but morally it was their weakness.

The farmer had good occasion to note that with the power came a multitude of evils. Law after law had been passed to curb or eliminate unscrupulous business and political

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

practices. But the farmer saw that their place was taken by unprincipled labor practices. There came ugly disclosures of grafting by labor union leaders. Strikes were not infrequently used for blackmail purposes. Instead of courting public opinion unions arrived at the point of ignoring or defying it. They showed, the farmer also believed, both an intense materialism and a crass selfishness. They concerned themselves only with their own interests, seemed indifferent to the well being of other classes, and provided that they attained their ends did not care how much disturbance they brought about.

These were facts long before they were properly noted by writers having an influence over public opinion. It was a principle among most authors to champion the cause of labor as that of the under-dog. Their honest conviction was, that to weaken the power of capitalism, it was expedient to exalt the motives and deeds of labor. Hence they blinded themselves to labor's misconduct. If a strike was misrepresented as one of violence it was right to denounce capital. But if a court trial proved that a venal labor leader profited from calling or hushing strikes, the less said about it the better. From labor union leaders this policy would be natural. As human affairs go it is not to be expected that advocates of any organization or institution will present an adverse side. But with independent writers the case is different. Their duty is to give the facts no matter who it hurts or pleases.

Events during and after the great war had an enormous effect in crystallizing what we may term large sections of public opinion regarding industrial labor. For the professional classes the period was a trying one and still so continues. Prices and rents rose and kept rising while salaries remained stationary or almost so. Millions of teachers, clerks and other professionals saw labor unions ready enough to come to an understanding with profiteers provided they, the unions, received their share of the spoils in the form of higher wages. Where formerly large num-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

bers of these professionals had sympathized with the labor movement they now began to feel an aversion. This feeling was intensified in all cities by the critical housing shortage. Not all the considerations of public welfare had any weight against the demand of building trade unions that war wages had to be continued. Exorbitant rents could be mulcted, families could double up in apartments and houses existing in unsanitary conditions yet there must be no relaxation of war wages and arbitrary rules!

The extremes to which organizing and striking policies could go were vividly shown by the strike of the Boston policemen. That they needed higher pay to meet the soaring cost of living was true enough. But this, in the public mind, did not justify them in abandoning their posts and turning a great city over to the criminal elements which did not lose an instant in making their appearance. That strike was condemned as a crime against civilization itself. Its effects, or rather its lessons, made a deep national impression. They focused public thought upon a new point of view. The right to strike was not questioned. But were there not circumstances in which considerations of public welfare were paramount to the interests, real or fancied, of any group? Was any group warranted in peremptorily closing down coal mines or paralyzing transportation or otherwise disorganizing services vital to the well-being of the whole community? This view was incorporated in legislation passed in Kansas and in bills urged in legislatures and in Congress.

The opposition of the farmer to industrial labor methods and policies found keen expression after the war. It was based upon both moral and economic grounds. The fall in the price of agricultural products has entailed a loss to the farmer of billions of dollars. Meanwhile he sees industrial labor continuing to draw war time wages and generally insisting upon their maintenance.

"More than any other one thing, it is the city laboring man who today is standing between the farmer and reason-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

able prices for the things which he buys," said a recent editorial in *Wallace's Farmer,* published in Iowa. Its owners and editors are Henry G. Wallace, United States Secretary of Agriculture, and his brother. "If the railroad man", the editorial went on, "was selling his labor as cheaply as the farmer is selling his corn, oats, hogs and cattle, the farmer would be able to get ten per cent more for his farm products and the consumer would be able to buy his product about ten per cent more cheaply. Before the war, eighteen billion dollars every year either went to farmers or city laborers. Of this eighteen billion dollars, the share of the farmers was invariably around twenty-one per cent. During the war years the farmers fared relatively better than the laborers, and their share of the joint product increased to thirty per cent. Since deflation began, however, the share of the farmer in the joint product has been steadily declining until now it is right around ten per cent."

Similar complaints are made by other representative farmers' journals. *The Farmer and Stockman,* published at Jacksonville, Florida, not long ago indignantly pointed out: "Labor continues to draw war time pay with the result that transportation costs on farm products are more than one hundred per cent higher than they were in 1914, commodities needed by the farmer are from fifty to two hundred per cent above the pre-war level, whereas all farm products are selling at prices current in 1914 or lower." Virtually every important farmers' periodical has been making the same representations.

What remedy do farmers' organizations and mouthpieces themselves suggest? Some favor limitation of crop output, others propose co-operative buying and selling associations. But all, with a rare exception, urge the necessity of a reduction of industrial labor wages. *Wallace's Farmer* recommends that the farmer must steer clear of entangling alliances with labor and with capital. It, however, thus significantly interjects:

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

> As long as we are working under the present structure of society, there is only one logical thing for the farmer to do at the present stage of the game, and that is to back up Capital in reducing wages. Personally, we hope that wages will be cut until they are only seventy per cent above pre-war, and that farm products will be raised until they are seventy per cent above pre-war. If it proves impossible to raise farm products beyond thirty per cent above pre-war, then we are in favor of cutting wages to thirty per cent above pre-war.

Senator Capper of Kansas, one of the most influential members of the farm bloc in the United States Senate, and the owner of farm journals says substantially the same thing but in an inverted way. In a recent letter to *Capper's Weekly* he says the farmer is really the nation's backbone. He then comments: "Wall Street and Big Business should be aiding instead of fighting their best friend; should be aiding instead of opposing the efforts of farm blocs in Congress." There may be grave doubts of the advisability of any kind of bloc in Congress. The existence of one bloc presupposes the formation of other blocs. But there can be no doubt of the drift of meaning of such utterances as are here given. They show that for the present at any rate farmers' organizations are willing to arrive at some sort of understanding with capital in the fight to overcome what they regard as the exactions of industrial labor.

But the farmer's feeling against industrial labor goes deeper than the question of wages. He sees urban labor enjoying an eight-hour work day and measured by the week, often less—while he, the farmer, has to exchange the products of a long work day for those of a short work day. Furthermore, he thinks that industrial labor is concerned only with its own benefits and is callous to the conditions under which farmers have to work. J. R. Howard, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, thus expresses the farmer's sentiments:

> On the average, farmers and their families work about ten hours per day, ranging from an average of eight hours thirty-three minutes in winter to ten hours fifty-four minutes in

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

> summer. Not only do the hours of labor in cities average less than in the country, rarely exceeding eight hours per day, but there are laws on the statute books limiting the hours of labor, especially for women and children in many industries. Did you ever hear of a law prohibiting the farmer's wife from working overtime?

The farmer also regards himself disillusioned as to the results of high wages for industrial labor. In place of the high degree of efficiency that labor leaders plausibly promised, he sees only a lowering of standards. "When labor organized", the *Idaho Farmer* declares, "the price of labor went up, and in many cases the efficiency of labor went down." *Hoard's Dairyman* is more emphatic. It says:

> That the increase in wages has brought flagrant indifference and inefficiency in the discharge of its duties has been a source of disappointment to us. It is our desire to have labor well paid and when well paid we desire to have labor render good service. We cannot understand the reasoning power of men, when they ask for shorter hours and increased pay, and then expect to do less work per hour. There is no way of building homes, railroads or anything else without labor. Money will not do it, neither will organization. There is only one way to develop the industries of this nation and that is through work.

Further, if the full truth were revealed, it would be known that many members of the labor unions themselves are restless under union policies and methods. In some places labor unions have recently shown a disposition to submit to arbitration and readjustment, but the general bearing of labor is far from satisfactory to the farmer. He is skeptical of promises and values performance only. All the signs indicate that union labor is confronted with a strong alignment of forces such as it never had to face previously. True, this alignment is not a definite one of contact. It exists thus far in sentiment and tendencies. But in a country where public opinion dominates and determines, it may already be classed as an actuality.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE IRRESPONSIBILITY OF HEIRS

By ELIZABETH BANKS

A FEW weeks ago I passed a picture theatre where I saw advertised a screen production of a book written by one of my very dear friends, now dead. Up to the time of her writing this particular book all her work had, of necessity, been of the "pot-boiling" variety—to buy her bread and the bread of her dependents.

"In this book", she said to me when it was finished, "I have at last dared to write as a free woman. I have put not only my best literary work into it, but I have poured into it my very soul and heart. Whether it sells or not, *I know it is good!*"

So, as I looked at the advertisement of the filmed story by my dead friend, I wondered how it had been pictured, and, feeling glad that so fine a thing was now to be placed before a large public, I went into the theatre to see it.

I sat through it, and I did not hiss nor cry out. That is all I can say for myself. The beautiful story, the great strong scenes had been made into the silliest, sloppiest melodrama, and the ending of the story, which was the only true and artistic ending possible, had been changed completely. I knew that in life my friend would have starved before accepting money to allow such changes.

Then I went away and wept over this cruel mockery, this interference with the rights of the dead.

"*The Diamond Necklace*—Clever Screen Adaptation of Guy de Maupassant's Great Masterpiece!"

Thus runs another advertisement outside numerous picture theatres throughout the world.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

"The Diamond Necklace" has been conceded by the majority of worth-while literary critics to be the masterpiece of the world's master short story writer. It has all de Maupassant's gentle, delicate cynicism; its characters are painted in daintily, yet strongly, with that wonderfully graphic brush of his; great in its beauty and simplicity, heart-rending in its final tragedy—who that has read it but sits in quiet, worshipful, spell-bound attitude, pondering upon the genius that produced it!

And this literary gem has been "adapted" for the "pictures"; turned into an English story of London life; changed beyond all recognition; absurd and criminal characters introduced, made into the cheapest and most disgusting sort of screen novelette!

A year or two before the war, a young Englishman, of Lancashire, Stanley Houghton, wrote and had produced in England and America a play under the title of "Hindle Wakes". It was acclaimed by English and American critics—and justly—as the biggest play written by an Englishman in recent years. It showed as heroine a Lancashire mill girl. Then in his early youth, ere he could do his great part toward transforming the British stage and helping to cleanse it from some of its filthy hypocrisy, Stanley Houghton died.

During the war a passably good and true screen version was made of this play for Great Britain and, I believe, also for America, but frequently in order to shorten the performance, huge pieces of the film were cut off. This always happened especially to those parts which showed Stanley Houghton's power as a humorist and a philosopher; those parts which would do more to make young men and young women, see the real common sense of clean living and the absurdity of the unequal sexual moral code than anything I have ever read in a book or seen produced upon the stage.

In re-reading some letters preserved from a correspondence which I was fortunate in having with this gifted

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

young playwright, I am able to judge somewhat how Stanley Houghton would have regarded the suggestion of anyone taking such liberties with his work, destroying its artistry, annulling its power.

Many years ago, although it seems yesterday, I used to sit in the old farm house kitchen in Wisconsin, a little red-haired, freckle-faced girl, listening breathlessly and reverently to my old uncle telling stories of his work and association with Abraham Lincoln in the times of the Abolition movement. Great-Uncle had worked on what was known as the "underground railroad", assisting runaway slaves in their escape to Canada. The tales he told thrilled through to my childish heart, as he would point to the steel engraving of Lincoln hanging over the kitchen mantel.

So I grew to womanhood, loving, worshipping the Great Emancipator because I had, in my childhood, known and loved people who had known and loved him.

And lately in England I have seen strutting across a London stage a caricature of my country's Well-Beloved; a Lincoln turned into a discursive, ignorant Irishman with a brogue which is supposed to represent the American "twang"; a Lincoln always preaching and never doing. On this London stage his beautiful Springfield home, where he lived as a successful lawyer before his election to the Presidency, is shown as a hovel in which the poorest and most slovenly of American workingmen of the early sixties would not have been found living. The Executive Mansion of Washington has been depicted in similar fashion—a dirty white-washed wall represents a reception room absurdly furnished with two or three cheap sticks. Lincoln's great inaugural and Gettysburg speeches have been twisted and changed into an impromptu lecture spoken from a Washington theatre-box a few minutes before he was shot. General Grant, another of our mighty dead, a graduate of West Point, is shown as a dirty, coarse, whiskey-swilling, loafer-like tramp; General Robert E. Lee is made a ridicu-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

lous looking spick-and-span dandy. The most important parts of the history of our great Civil War have been turned and twisted to make a dramatic point.

This is the play of "Abraham Lincoln" as produced in England. This is the play which has been the cause of starting English young men and girls limping through the London streets with a gait which has come to be termed "the Lincoln Walk" and which makes people turn and laugh. This is the play produced by an English company, written by an English poet who boldly tells us that, being himself an Englishman, he decided not to attempt to reproduce American idiom or American local color. What sacrilege! What desecration! Oh, Sainted Dead!

In the year 1890 a man, aged sixty-nine, sat steadily day after day, engaged in writing a translation by which, as he told his friends, he believed his name would be immortal in the world of letters. He was the greatest literary traveler the world has known, one who pryed into the secret places of the earth and the world's many religions—Sir Richard Burton. The translation over which he pored was his rendering of the old Arab Nafzawi's Fifteenth Century Tales.

Then one day, while still he translated and annotated, Richard Burton died.

His wife, not approving of the subject of the Tales, threw her dead husband's manuscript into the fire—so the world has missed something intended for it, the thing that Richard Burton believed to be his own one great bit of literature.

Of the making—and of the breaking—of wills there is no end. The living, while in their right senses, bequeath their houses and lands and stocks and bonds and cash to their descendants, relations, and friends; but only a few of the living take sufficient thought, and make preparations, for contingencies of far greater import than the disposal of such goods. Most particularly is this the case with literary persons who leave behind them manuscripts, out-of-print books, which in years to come may be of the

DRURY COLLEGE LIBRARY
Springfield, Missouri

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

greatest artistic value to the world; yet, which left behind, unmentioned in wills, may be sold and hawked about, changed almost beyond recognition, ruined—to give some relation, or even a stranger, an income, and make a dozen publishers rich.

I have written of the rights of the dead, but I shall probably be met with the assertion that the dead have no rights because, without the power to enforce rights, they cease to exist. Today we live and have our rights. A thousand laws, written and unwritten, hedge us round about, protecting us from others and others from us. A man steals our property and the law gets it back and punishes the thief. Our reputations are damaged and we take action and obtain redress. Prying persons open our letters and listen at our key-holes, but we have a remedy against them. If we are robbed, libeled, slandered, we can appeal to the law.

Tomorrow we die, and on that morrow those who have willingly, or unwillingly, yielded us our rights in life may do whatsoever they please with us and our reputations. Us? We are no longer "us". We are merely "it". People talk of paying respect to the dead, so they tread softly in the room where "it" lies. They lower the blinds and they speak in hushed tones. That is all. If "it" was a public character, the press wants anecdotes. So, for a week or two the dead live again by means of newspaper paragraphs and club gossip, most particularly the latter, if there are any recollections to provide a rare or racy tale.

At the time I am writing this article in London, there is a sensation in England known as "the Kitchener Slander". An enterprising British film company has made a screen explanation of Lord Kitchener's death, introducing a woman spy and a treacherous British officer. The film has been shown privately and now it is forbidden by the government to be exhibited in public, the reason given being that it is a libel on the dead—and that the dead must be protected. Now, if it had been a film dealing with some other

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

subject, one might be encouraged to hope that at least one government had awakened to a realization that the dead have rights; but the fate of the Kitchener film can give no such hope. The fact is that there are large numbers of Britons who thoroughly believe that the suppression of the film is merely due to a determination that the fate of Lord Kitchener shall not again become a subject for general discussion and speculation, and that this is a case, not of protecting the dead, but of protecting the negligent living.

Be this as it may, I have not seen, during my long (though intermittent) residence in England, any indication of a particularly sensitive conscience in this country concerning the rights of the dead. Let it never be forgotten that the publication of the Browning Love Letters was a British, not an American, enterprise, and that delving into the private lives of the Sisters Brontë, particularly that of Charlotte, has appeared to have an almost ghoulish fascination for many an English writer. The American attitude toward the Brontés has been one of far more delicacy and reserve.

In an article of this sort and on such a theme, one seems naturally to dwell more particularly upon the rights of literary persons because they, more than any other class of profession, are robbed and exploited after death. A few years ago I got from a library a book issued over the name of a famous literary man, who during his life had been one of my friends and all of whose books I believed I had read—yet here was one with which I seemed unfamiliar. I found it to be a book of little merit and certainly in very bad taste, in no way like the books one was accustomed to expect from him. It turned out to be a collection of very youthful work which had been found in an old chest, put away and forgotten by him, unearthed by his executor and published as a posthumous work in order to increase the already sufficient income of a member

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

of his family. Until one learned that it was early work, written in the exuberance and pardonable vanity of youth, one supposed it to be the work of a once virile intellect which had arrived at the stage of senile decay.

Just how the living, *while living,* can protect themselves after they are dead is a problem that lends itself to hard study and soul-probing. Certainly it is not sufficient that one should will all one's belongings to the person one best loves, unless in the exceptional cases of thorough oneness and understanding. A man may love his wife though she does not appreciate nor understand his poems, his fiction, his religious philosophy. To make his will in such a way that she shall be entitled to destroy his manuscripts or publish any little scrap of his writing at her own discretion, may seem a very loving way of settling up his earthly affairs, although it is more often than not merely a bit of laziness in taking the line of least resistance. If the law will not protect us when dead, it behooves us, while living, to take the best possible steps for our own protection when we shall no longer be able to voice our wishes.

The rights of the dead! Is it possible there is no way to enforce them? Have we no remedy against the almost certain spoliation toward which, with steady steps, we all approach? Might not we who now live, instead of making merry because tomorrow we die, apply ourselves more seriously to the outlining of certain laws that may, in part at least, protect ourselves and our dearest treasures from profanation? If this is impossible, then there is nothing left for us but utterly to destroy what we love in order to save it. The portrait of the loved one, the letter written from the heart, the jewelled keepsake—let us tear, burn, annihilate—for thus only can we hold inviolate that part of us which is our very own.

Do the dead *know?* Let us hope they do not, for if they know, lingering now about us as shadows that cast no shade, looking on without the power to prevent the desecration of what in life they held most dear, can they be happy?

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

I know there are wise philosophers who will say that this life is but a tiny incident among millions of other incidents called "incarnations"; that the infinitesimal incidents of this incident of life are not counted or remembered in our future existences.

Perhaps we had best content ourselves with the belief, cold and comfortless as it may sometimes seem, that the dead take the wider, broader view, seeing all things in another perspective from that which they used while living; that they are not what they were; care nought for the things for which they once cared; that they are not near but always afar off.

But then we shall ask ourselves if anything really matters, and if our answer to that question is that nothing matters, that all is vanity and vexation of spirit, then within our hearts all hope, all ambition, all sorrow, all joy and, most of all, all love, will die, so that while we yet live we shall be dead, indeed.

Therefore my ego asserts itself, and therefore I plead for the Rights of the Dead.

EVEN NOW

By Ben Ray Redman

Running through all my hours and days
On slim white sandaled feet,
Trailing a garment spun of dreams,
With gesture gently sweet,
One figure charms my weary sense
With rapture delicate—
The image of my old ideals,
And faith, inviolate.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE INTELLIGENCE OF ANIMALS

By M. DE MOLOSTWOFF

THE will and the intelligence of an animal is in direct proportion to his physical development. The nearer does the physical development of an animal approach that of a man, the nearer and closer is the will and intelligence of the animal to the will and intelligence of the man".

Thus think and speak many scientists. How entirely incorrect is this current and widespread opinion!

It is a well known fact that the life of an animal resembles closely the life of a man. Like man an animal propagates itself—and has therefore to provide for its own and its offsprings' maintenance. It is also known that some animals on a comparatively low scale of physical development construct elaborate and complicated buildings, conduct wars, transform some of their own kind into slaves, and utilize other animals in the same way in which man utilizes his cattle.

In the study of higher animals we learn that although quite different in the constitution of their bodies, the higher animals retain similarity in the actual expression of their will and intelligence. But in general, no matter how high its external manifestation, the intelligence and will of an animal differ radically in their very nature from those of a human being. The animal can perform the simple tasks of its life without knowing *why* he does them; the man, on the contrary, can do very little of what he wishes to do but to him is given a cognizance of the *reason* for his

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

activities and likewise the realization of possibilities for greater attainments through learning.

The animal whose physical structure is akin to the structure of a human body is called an anthropoid. In antiquity men enlightened for their age regarded the anthropoid apes as human beings still in an early stage of development. Thus, in a book written about two thousand years ago, the Carthaginian Hanon described an African simian creature whom he called a savage, adding that the only difference between this specimen and other savages was that the anthropoid was covered with a thick, woolly skin.

In the sixteenth century when these apes were no longer classified as human beings, wonderful stories were told about them pointing to their remarkable resemblance to man. Thus Baxttell spoke of an African ape, in all probability a gorilla, as very much akin to man. He stated that although its intellect was limited, it built for itself cabins in the branches of trees and buried its dead in the ground covering them with heaps of branches. These and similar stories were spread by travelers who based their tales not on eye-evidence but simply on hearsay. Pictures of anthropoid apes, dating back to 1748, represent them with canes in their hands. Similar drawings are found in Buffon's famous book, "Life of Animals". In his description Buffon says that the female of the species is ashamed of her naked body, and that the male steals and abducts women.

In the eighteenth century the famous Buffon in his experiments with captive apes taught them to shake hands, to drink, to eat like human beings—but these manifestations of intelligence are not at all convincing for the same things can be taught to dogs. The anthropoid appearance in the performance of these acts is due to the resemblance to man which is closer in the apes than in other animals. Hence—the delusion.

The same manifestations of will and intelligence are apparent among the lower animals. The lower forms of apes wash their offspring, the cats cleanse their kittens with

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

their own saliva, the ants do the same and in addition are very fond of being washed. Some scientists maintain that the anthropomorphic apes possess the same vices as man—for instance love of drink, but so do bears, porcupines and other animals on a lower stage of physical development. It is just as ridiculous to ascribe human intelligence to anthropoid apes as it would be to credit with this intelligence the talking birds—the parrot and the magpie. There is no doubt that the birds who learn to talk are just as clever or just as foolish as those who do not talk.

In one menagerie an elephant threw down his keeper, put his tusks to the man's stomach and kept him in this disagreeable position several hours. When he finally let the man go, the keeper confessed that he had unjustly punished the elephant.

There are innumerable instances of the wonderful mental development of domesticated animals. There exists an entirely erroneous conviction that animals acquire greater wisdom under the influence of man. We have no grounds for this proud belief. There is no doubt that animals can be taught various tricks, that domestic animals delight in imitating their masters—but there is an abyss between imitation and real higher mental development. In fact, if we compare results obtained by observations of wild animals we find that they display a cleverness not less, and sometimes greater than that found among their domesticated relatives.

A coal seller in Paris taught his magpie to sort his coal and to pick out the larger pieces, thus making the bird actually help him in his work.

We cannot but wonder at the amazing intelligence of animals. But in the true manifestation of this intelligence there is no great difference between the lower and the higher animals. The explanation of this phenomenon is simple enough. The needs of an animal are necessarily more limited than those of a man, but every animal is sufficiently wise and has sufficient power of will in all that

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

concerns its needs. That is why some lower animal, whose abilities are comparatively large, although the needs it must satisfy be less than those of a higher animal, may actually appear the more intelligent of the two.

The beaver may serve as a good example. While the belief that the anthropoid apes built for themselves log cabins proved to be false, the beaver not only builds cabins for himself, but even cements their interior, dams brooks and rivers creating artificial lakes. Therefore the beaver, who in his physical make-up is classed with the rodents—squirrels, woodchucks, etc., is in his way a woodcutter, a mason, an earth-digger. A little hole forms the beginning of the beaver's construction. This hole is approximately five feet long and three and one-half feet deep. The beavers cover the hole with a roof of willow twigs. The twigs are cleaned of all bark and knots and have an absolutely smooth surface. Then there is another layer of twigs, thrown on the roof in a disorderly fashion. An open circular path is built about the cabin and is later covered with twigs. This covering is made of longer sticks, sometimes of trees, placed with the thicker end against the roof and the thinner end on the ground. The gallery thus made is connected with the cabin and contains secret paths leading into the woods and under the water. As has been said before, beavers cement their dwellings inside. To observe the actual process is almost impossible, for the beavers are very wary; but upon taking the cabin apart it can be easily conjectured that the rodents heap river mud on the ceiling and then, entering the cabin, spread it with their paws. Some of these cabins are so strong that several men can walk on their roofs without fear of breaking through. The cabins are of various shapes, and often resemble small stacks of hay.

But among animals of a much lower scale of development we find instances of abilities of a more complicated order. The organized social life of termites is of special interest.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Termites approach our roaches in the construction of their bodies. Africa and Australia are the main countries of their habitat. Travelers are amazed at the so-called termites' nests. The number of dwellers in these nests exceeds by count the number of inhabitants of many large countries, while the structures themselves relative to the height of the insect transcend the tallest edifices erected by man. Termites reach on the average ten to twelve millimeters in length. They are approximately one hundred and fifty times smaller than man. The Eiffel Tower is three hundred meters high. It is one hundred and seventy-five times as tall as the workers who reared it. Termite nests reach seven yards in height, and thus exceed five hundred times the length of the insect.

The shape of the nests is often most bizarre. They are placed so thickly and closely that one can mistake them for a native village. The nests are made of clay mixed with saliva and the insects' excreta, and are so strong that any number of men can stand safely on the top of them. Often a big tree falls on a nest without doing it any damage. The nests have, on their exterior, no entrances or exits, and in order to get acquainted with their interior it is necessary to break them open. They have two walls—an inner and an outer one—made of cross beams and rafters. Like the exterior wall these rafters and beams form a sort of sponge whose holes are the cells proper. These cells are, in turn, connected by passages. It is noteworthy that termites' nests have their subterranean structures. The foundation and the basement are built very much like the higher section. The underground hall is as a rule of a depth equal to the height above surface of the other half. Since the nests have neither doors nor openings of any kind, they are completely protected from enemies and are closed to light and dry air—the latter being of greater danger to the termites than any enemy. The nest therefore is always cool and damp. This is necessary for the welfare of the insects,

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

and it promotes and aids the growth of microscopic organisms which serve as food for the insects' young.

The exits from the nests are all underground, measuring in length one hundred to two hundred feet, are cemented in the same way as the nests. These galleries are blind alleys, and the apertures for an exit are continually bored through and cemented again. This is easily done since the walls are thin and the jaws of the termites are strong and sharp.

Like the roach the termite is divided into three parts: the head, the thorax, and the anthorax. Like all higher animals insects are divided into males and females. It is known, however, that the family of bees is divided into three classes: the queen bee, who is the female, the drones, who are males, and the working bees who are also females, but so underdeveloped that they are unable to lay eggs. The termites have gone a step farther; they have besides the three classes, also soldiers. The soldiers are born males and females, but bear no progeny; their function is socially useful work. There is a sharp difference in the external appearance of the males and the females on one side, and the soldiers and workers on the other. The first have wings but only slightly developed heads. The soldiers and workers are wingless; the heads of the soldiers are of medium size with barely protruding mandibles; the soldiers have very large heads and, as a rule, very large mandibles, bayonet-like in appearance.

As mentioned above the larvae are all alike. After a few months, however, when the larvae have shed their skins several times the distinction between them becomes more and more pronounced. Those which develop into workers undergo the least change. The heads of the soldiers increase in length and width and take on a specific shape. The heads of the male and female do not grow; on the contrary they diminish in size. The wings of the males and females cover their entire body, only the head and the first segment of the breast are left uncovered. The labors of the workers commence very early. They do

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

everything. They repair the nests, they feed the other members of the family, beginning with the very young, and ending with the queen mother. They fight any enemy who attempts to penetrate into the nest. They also work at night, mow with their mandibles the grass and drag it into the nests, and also gather supplies of other vegetable matter. The soldiers are in fact overseers and watchmen. They watch for the approach of an enemy and immediately let the workers know if there is danger either by tickling them with their antennae or else by means of a peculiar noise. They are the first to break through the walls for a necessary exit; they also cleanse the nests of corpses by devouring them.

It is interesting to note that upon the workers and the soldiers rests the responsibility for keeping the nests clean.

The fates of the males and females are very different. As soon as the males and the females reach their complete development they fly out of the nests in large swarms, often of enormous size, resembling clouds. As soon as such clouds appear birds and even men devour them greedily. Those of the termites who survive very soon break off their wings and begin to lay eggs. In the beginning the males and females resemble each other closely, but when they begin to propagate the female grows in size. Her thorax assumes enormous proportions, making her a giant in appearance as compared with the male. In some species a pair of termites lays the foundations of a new family in which the workers and the soldiers perform their allotted tasks. In other instances the pair are kidnapped by workers from some nest for breeding purposes. In small nests these pairs are allowed complete liberty; in large nests they are locked up in a special cell, the so-called *royal cell*. This is usually situated close to the earth's surface with openings small enough to permit the passage of workers and soldiers, but not themselves. Through these openings the faithful caretakers pass back and forth bringing food to the royal pair and caring for their comfort. The eggs laid by the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

females are seized immediately and placed into special cells.

Because of this mode of living the female of a large nest grows enormous in size, often thirty thousand times that of a worker. They lay frequently an egg a second, or about eighty thousand eggs every twenty-four hours. The most interesting phenomenon in the life of termites is their ability to accelerate the breeding of females, which becomes prolific even before their wings develop. The same is true of the males. The superfluous males are killed and devoured.

This detailed survey of the life of termites emphasizes the contention expressed in the opening paragraph of this paper, namely, the difference between the will and intelligence of animals and the will and intelligence of man. The outstanding principles governing the life of these insects can be traced through the lives of other animals, beginning with the lowest and ending with the highest on the scale of development. In other words: as among animals who least resemble us, so also among those who approach us in their physical makeup, the body is nothing else but a machine. This machine has no capacity for reasoning and lives as its body directs it to live. Man, however, is the only animal endowed with a will to live according to his reason, and he alone is amenable for his actions to his Creator.

SURVIVAL

By VIOLET ALLEYN STOREY

Swift-fingered Years unravel each illusion,
But sometimes Age can catch bright threads that fall,
And so, with these, her trembling hands embroider
The solemn blackness of Death's tragic pall.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

CHINA'S POST-WAR TASK

By His Excellency, Hsu Shih-Chang,

President of the Republic of China

CHINA'S population being dense, the industrial problem has not been one of scarcity of labor but rather one of inequality of opportunity. Hence all through the centuries the economic maxim has been to provide equal opportunities for all, and whatever one may say of modern labor conditions, it is yet noteworthy that there is greater friendly co-operation between employer and employee in China than in the West. For example, in the commercial and industrial lines, the employer of a large firm or factory will personally look after the business. He will go around the work-shop or premises and note mentally the efficiency of each employee, since each employee is entitled to a share of the bonus at the end of the business year. This bonus is generally apportioned with seventy per centum to capital and thirty per centum to labor. At the end of the year the accounts will be open to the inspection of the employees, and whoever has any question to ask may speak out his mind. There is thus almost perfect co-operation between the employer and the employee, and naturally every employee will do his best for the business. The latter is interested in its prosperity and so will be honest with his employer. Thus China has practiced a system of profit sharing and joint management between capital and labor for some time, the doctrines of which are comparatively new in the West.

Or take our agricultural system, which is based on small landholdings. This is a great contrast to the system of the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

West under which a few wealthy capitalists monopolize the land. Such monopolies always work hardships on tenants. It is why in recent decades there has been so much bitter feeling between the landlord and the tenant in Europe, feelings which often resulted in much bloodshed, as in the case of the first French Revolution and in the present Russian one. And this is also why far-sighted men in the West before the war sought to avert the catastrophe by advocating the breaking up of large estates into small landholdings.

Or again, take the giving of charities, which has from time immemorial been regarded as one of the rich man's social duties. In the West, the philanthropist who gives freely to the poor is praised for his generosity: but he incurs no public opprobrium if he chooses not to give. In China, however, for a wealthy man to give is only accounted a performance of his duty. He will be condemned if he spurns the poor man from his door. Examples of popular approval or condemnation are too numerous in Chinese literature; hence the giving of alms as well as assisting the destitute is a well established social duty.

This social code is accentuated by the Chinese family system, since those who can are expected to assist their needy relatives. No doubt such generosity may be abused. For example, it may breed social parasites who prefer to live on a relative's charity rather than work honestly to support themselves. It may lessen a man's sense of self-respect and independence. Not infrequently some rich and able men are so much handicapped by their parasitic relatives that they fail to achieve the greatest successes in their lives, which are otherwise within their reach. Thus, it rather hinders social progress. Nevertheless, from the standpoint of human relationships paternalistic solicitude is more human than stoic indifference to poor relations. Also from the standpoint of society in general, the Chinese system is a more effective method to preserve the social equilibrium, since it tends to assuage the sharp contrast

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

which otherwise would exist between the wealthy and the poor.

To such an extent, the Chinese system is a decided improvement on the Western model. In the West the social equilibrium is in danger of toppling over, despite the state's powerful efforts to maintain it by means of proper legislation. In China, however, the equilibrium is as stable as ever, just because the people themselves, aided by their family system, provide the necessary supports. Will this same equilibrium remain unchanged, it may be asked, when China of the future proves to be as prosperous industrially as the West? The labor conditions are at present more simple than complex, and the relations existing between capital and labor are more paternal than business-like in character. How about later when labor in China will also resemble labor in the West, with its powerful trade unions and mighty influence for good or evil? In our opinion the answer can be summarized as follows: the Chinese as a race possess a great deal of common sense. Circumstances may change and conditions may alter, but age-old traditions and customs certainly will not change so easily. If the beneficent social traditions that exist today should be ingrafted into the industrialized China of tomorrow, as we believe will probably be the case, then it will be China's contribution to the world to form the first exemplary body politic free from bitterly antagonistic economic classes. Therefore, it is not inconsistent with the interest of the other world powers to assist us in our endeavor to improve our economic development, which can only result in our contributing more to enrich their well-being at the same time.

Otherwise, to persist in the ancient policy of economic spoliation on their part, is eventually, to court grave disaster. A capitalistic domination of the West over the laboring East means a reinforcement of their own unmanageable and already immensely overwhelming majority class of the proletariat with an additional one-quarter of

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the entire human race. Conceivably, such a new situation would hardly strengthen the position of the capitalists as a class, if not hastening their downfall and bringing about social chaos. Should the latter happen, it would be unfortunate for China and for them alike. Therefore, from social considerations, we also conclude that the powers should co-operate with China.

Generally speaking, there are two different types of culture in the world, the Eastern and the Western. Each has its merits and demerits, and the task is how to combine both into one harmonious whole. If before the war the need of such harmony was not felt, it is now only too evident after the war. The peace of the future depends on it, and to harmonize the two, all men must now bend their energies.

The Western culture is, for the greater part, a material civilization, although it has also its spiritual side. Greater emphasis is laid on things visible and tangible, and the key-note of progress is competition. Thus, trade and commerce, industries and manufactures are said to grow only by competition. The Darwinian doctrine of the survival of the fittest is most representative of this type of mind. Individuals and nations of this type of culture, are prone to consider that to work for material gains is the supreme task of existence. All thoughts of activities spent for industrial efficiency and for economic expansion are all, in short, the products of this school of materialistic philosophy, which in turn breed conflicts that recently developed into a world war in Europe. The truth of this statement cannot be denied if one examines without bias the history of Europe of the last hundred years or so.

The Eastern type of culture, on the other hand, lays more emphasis on the immaterial side of civilization, and the key-note of civil tranquility is self control and mutual submission. The morality of every act receives more consideration than the success or gain. The teachings of Confucius about meekness, kindness, mutual reverence and

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

mutual submission in conduct is most representative of this type of culture. Since time immemorial, the savants of the country have always given self-discipline and self-control an important place in education. Self-contentment, loyalty and obligation are the principles to guide life. People of this type of culture are easily made socially harmonious and politically cohesive, but they are negligent of the progress of the physical side of civilization.

Since the middle of the nineteenth century, the stronger aspect of the Western civilization has been developed to such a dazzling height that when the Eastern and the Western countries are brought together, the weaker aspect of the Eastern civilization is most conspicuously exposed to daylight. For self-preservation and for the general advancement of mankind, we of the Eastern culture admit the necessity of adopting certain parts of the Western culture. But the question of adoption is certainly not a one-sided one. The West has likewise something to adopt from us to amend their defects. For example, if Europe and America after the war still believe in the same materialistic philosophy and follow the same policy as before the war of making gains at others' expense then it is not conceivable that the world could avoid second and third wars. It is equally inconceivable that such policy could be changed in sincerity without to some extent adopting the Eastern ethics of self-denial and mutual respect. In a word, unless the West adopts the Eastern philosophy of how to live and the East adopts the Western methods of how to make a living, all such things as "permanent peace" and "international equality" will remain absolutely unattainable ideals. Therefore, we said, to harmonize the Eastern and Western types of culture is one of our greatest tasks after the war.

The recent establishment in the Paris University of a School of higher Chinese Studies as well as the American libraries' proposal to exchange ancient literature with Chinese libraries are all unmistakable evidences that the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

West is earnestly learning of the East. On the other hand, our people are no less alive to the situation on our side. The state of seclusion is no longer our cherished ideal, and we are also learning of the West in developing our industries with a view to supplying our own needs as well as the needs of other nations. We send abroad students and visiting parties every year to carry home what is best of Europe and America. The war has demonstrated as never before how very closely interdependent are the West and the East. It has profoundly awakened both sides. The opportunity has never been so favorable for bringing the two types of civilization in full harmony. Having agreed that it is an urgent task, it may be asked who is most competent to be the harmonizer? Our answer is, China and China only. China *is* the Eastern culture. The duty of harmonization is necessarily China's. We have to ingraft Western civilization into our own; for a spiritual and ethical civilization cannot last unless there is sufficient economic development for its support. Similarly, we have to disseminate our culture in the West; for the ultimate result of the materialistic philosophy will endanger the entire world including our own nation. Therefore, whether from motives of self-preservation or from altruistic motives, we believe our people will perform their mission most faithfully. With the most competent qualifications and the most faithful performance China will be able, we hope, to accomplish this most beneficial task in the shortest possible time. If so, what the world hopes from China will not be limited to the supply of raw materials, the consumption of its manufactures or the investment of its surplus wealth. She shall be one of the cornerstones on which the edifice of the world's permanent peace shall be built.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

AROUND THE EDITORIAL TABLE

THOSE who know Truman H. Newberry did not need any vindication by vote of the Senate. The writer personally happens to know something of the spirit that actuated the former Secretary of the Navy under Theodore Roosevelt. It was at the time that Mr. Newberry was just about to be nominated that the editor of *The Forum* was asked by Theodore Roosevelt to call on Commander Newberry and assure him that he (Colonel Roosevelt) was most anxious to have him run as he would regard the election of Henry Ford a national calamity.

The writer did call on Newberry and found him at his desk working from nine to five every day in the Navy Department office at the corner of Chambers Street and Broadway, New York City. Despite the fact that he was an Ex-Secretary of the Navy—a man with actual naval experience who had tried to play some part in the interest of the country, it was only with the greatest difficulty that he succeeded in getting any recognition from the Navy Department. Never was there a more ill-mannered administration than that of Mr. Wilson. Courtesy and the ordinary rules of the game seemed to be absolutely unknown to him.

The writer gave to Commander Newberry the message sent by Theodore Roosevelt. We recall most distinctly his answer:

"I wish they could find somebody else to make the fight. I don't want to run. I received the highest honor that will ever come to me in my life when I was made a member of the cabinet of Theodore Roosevelt, I don't look for any further honors. I cannot make a fight—I do not intend to make a fight. The matter is absolutely in the hands of those people in Michigan who believe that Ford should be defeated."

If any man has been persecuted in this country in the last half dozen years it has been Truman Newberry. He has been subjected to the same persecution and from the same source that insulted Theodore Roosevelt when he had no other desire than to fight on the battle field for his country.

* * * * * * *

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

There is much agitation among those who fear a stage censorship and who do not realize that the vast majority of the plays that are produced in New York and then slopped on the rest of the country are so bad, not only in a moral but in an artistic sense that it matters very little whether there is a censorship or not. There are, we presume, serious-minded young dramatists who desire freedom in order that they may write their own transcriptions of life, but why should they worry about getting past a censor when they are unable to get past the ignorant and in many instances the vicious theatrical managers who are looking apparently only for filth? The dramatic critics of course may be expected to storm about the censorship. It is in this particular domain that censorship is most needed, for if the critics were men of ability and scholarship and had any sense of their responsibility there would not be the conditions that provoke the discussion about the censor. On the contrary it was necessary for a woman to write to the *New York Times* and call attention to the fact that while filthy farces were reviewed at length such able productions as Fritz Lieber Shakesperean revivals passed with scant notice.

* * * * * * *

Despite the diminutive spiritual stature of the leading statesmen not only of America but of the world today, the clouds are not without a silver lining. The extraordinary response to the two articles in *The Forum* by Ex-Governor Chase S. Osborn of Michigan indicates that people still are interested in the spiritual side of things, that they will respond to an honest straight-forward attempt to turn their minds to things of other than material consequence.

One wonders why men gifted with real intellect do not see that deep down in their hearts people are aching for simple truths and something that they can take away with them into their own secret chambers and find there—consolation and hope; why men in times like these will turn their intellects into shallow waters rather than into the deeper channels is one of the mysteries of our curious day.

* * * * * * *

Won't somebody please ask Sir Philip Gibbs "to sit down"?

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT BOOKS

*TOO MANY WORDS ABOUT WELLS**

H. G. WELLS has been too busy distorting the Disarmament Conference for a newspaper syndicate to pay attention to the letters of Henry Arthur Jones. This one-sided correspondence now appears under the none too alluring label of "My dear Wells." The title is patronizing, and Wells prefers to do his own patronizing—has done a lot of it, including Lenin and a few well soaped Bolsheviks, the literary world in general, and American politics in particular. His friends assert that the Jones apostrophes amount to mere flea bites upon the flank of their literary ox. But once in a while the flea bites must have stung.

Your reviewer happened to be in London last winter when Jones and Wells were engaging in verbal duello. The Jones letters were printed in *The Westminster Gazette* and *The Morning Post*. Wells had just returned from Russia. Certain of his utterances did not square with the brutal logic of the man who wrote "Mrs. Dane's Defense." Whereupon the Jones pen went into the Jones ink bottle; words began to trickle forth. This is the trouble with "My dear Wells"—there are too many words. Mr. Jones is a past master of packing terseness into dramatic dialogue. No one has ever accused him of making stage characters gabble meaninglessly. Pull dusty "Mrs. Dane" from your book shelf; or, better yet, dig up a copy of "Judah" and prove it. Yet in his sniping at Wells we have prolixity plus. These might be letters written in Walpole's day—not by Walpole, however. Very few Americans unacquainted with the dispute out of which they proceeded will be patient enough to read all the way through. As a matter of fact, what H. G. Wells and Henry Arthur Jones think about politics really does not matter. But for anyone interested in teapot tempests, involving outraged gentleman playwrights and successfully slogging marketers of literary wares tinged with political mumbo-jumbo, the book is worth while.

—JOHN STODDARD.

*"MY DEAR WELLS," by Henry Arthur Jones—E. P. Dutton and Company.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE WISDOM OF MERLIN*

POETRY-LOVERS, which is to say, Edwin Arlington Robinson poetry-lovers, are blessed in the thick volume of his "Collected Poems" recently brought out. If these comprise everything Mr. Robinson has ever written, they spell an existence of work and study and intense feeling such as youth, clamoring to live life to the full, may well envy. How does the poet know so truly the might—the frailty—of the human heart? From experience or from intuitive genius? That is the poet's secret, and we are not to know—only in this book of Mr. Robinson's we are more startled than ever at his sureness of vision. A sureness that is so comprehensive that it is all-embracing of every experience life can offer. Here is a poet who writes of life—and Merlin—and modern men with the wisdom of Merlin himself.

Destiny—the Master of Man, the unconquerable, the fear and weight of whose dark burden was sung of old by the Greeks, sustained through the centuries to be immortalized by Shakespeare—today in an age when science has explained away most of the mysteries that made a young world tremble, shadows our souls just as awesomely, as fearsomely, as inevitably from Mr. Robinson's modern poetry. It is more present in his verse than in that of any other living poet. "Avon's Harvest" breathes it, as in these lines:—

> "Now and again there comes one of his kind—
> By chance, we say. I leave all that to you.
> Whether it was an evil chance alone,
> Or some invidious juggling of the stars,
> Or some accrued arrears of ancestors
> Who throve on debts that I was here to pay,
> Or sins within me that I knew not of,
> Or just a foretaste of what waits in hell"—

Also in spots it is emphasized with a note of fatality and terror somewhat akin to the one that Poe sounded; yet Mr. Robinson is too sure an artist to have it said that his verse is anything but Robinsonian. Atmosphere of dread ad suspense he certainly creates when Avon, relating his story behind locked doors in the silence of the night, says:—

> "Beware of hate
> That has no other boundary than the grave
> Made for it, or for ourselves. Beware, I say;
> And I'm a sorry one, I fear, to say it,

*"COLLECTED POEMS", by Edwin Arlington Robinson. The MacMillan Company.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Though for the moment we may let that go
And while I'm interrupting my own story
I'll ask of you the favor of a look
Into the street. I like it when it's empty.
There's only one man walking?"

Mr. Robinson feels the heart of man more surely than man feels it himself, and feeling it, he grieves with mankind and for mankind with a tenderness of pity and love made god-like by the strength and truth of its philosophy.

"When are we mortals to be sensible,
Paying no more for life than life is worth?
Better for us, no doubt, we do not know
How much we pay or what it is we buy."

And:

"We pay for going back; and all we get
Is one more needless ounce of weary wisdom
To bring away with us."

How truly the half-good, half-evil, that goes to make up the human soul is expressed in Gawaine's lament in "Lancelot" where Gawaine regrets too late his sensitiveness, which, grown deaf and calloused from going the way of the world, made him ignore Lancelot's soul trial at the moment when Lancelot needed his understanding and sympathy most.

"Bedivere, could I have given a decent seriousness
To Lancelot while he said things to me
That pulled his heart half out of him by the roots,
And left him, I see now, half sick with pity
For my poor uselessness to serve a need
That I had never known—
. . . . . "A few right words
Of mine, if said well, might have been enough.
. . . . . .
'Good God, if I had only said—said something!' "

Guinevere's pathetic "If I Were God":

"I should say, 'Let them be as they have been.
A few more years will heap no vast account
Against eternity, and all their love
Was what I gave them. They brought on the end
Of Arthur's empire, which I wrought through Merlin
For the world's knowing of what kings and queens
Are made for; but they knew not what they did—
Save as a price, and as a fear that love
Might end in fear. It need not end that way,

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

And they need fear no more for what I gave them;
For it was I who gave them to each other'.
If I were God, I should say that to you."—

shows that Mr. Robinson reads and pities the woman heart as surely as he does the man.

Is there greater pathos in any verse than in the lines about Arthur, the great king, humbled to the earth, stricken in a night—having ordered his Guinevere to submit to the law he himself had made, and to burn to death as penance for her fault?

. . . . . "'The King is coming;
Now you may hear him in the corridor,
Like a sick landlord shuffling to the light
For one last look-out on his mortgaged hills.
But hills and valleys are not what he sees;
He sees with us the fire—the sign—the law.
The King that is the father of the law
Is weaker than his child, except he slay it.'"

In these poems of Mr. Robinson, every verse so crowded, almost heavy with thought and philosophy, come many lines of sheer beauty and charm to intoxicate the ear, as in Lancelot's soliloquy:

"'Who is this Queen,
This pale witch-wonder of white fire and gold,
This Guinevere that I brought back with me
From Cameliard for Arthur!"

This is a poet whose songs rise clear, and high, and far, with a great message—a lilting music—and a deep and true philosophy. They are poetry.

—HELEN WALKER.

---

*MORE OF THE MEXICAN MIXUP**

THE Mexican question is like religion; it cannot be discussed with absolute impartiality. While, therefore, Dr. Dillon has tried to give an honest and unbiased account of the situation in Mexico as it is found at the moment, his book will, nevertheless, displease those who relished the articles published last year by Blasco Ibañez.

Mr. Dillon finds much to be hoped for in General Obregón's leadership of the Mexican people, and as he describes the situation, one perceives that there is a race between possibilities of General Obregón's success and that of Mr. Fall. The verge on which Mexico stands, according to Dr. Dillon, is that over which Haiti passed. Whether one believes her passing it would

*"MEXICO ON THE VERGE", by Dr. E. J. Dillon. George H. Doran Company.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

be a desirable thing or not is less important than the fact that Dr. Dillon's account ought to be read particularly by those who have not a clear understanding of what Mexico's problems are. His work is not written in quite as definite a vein as one might wish. A little more quoting of chapter and verse might be desired. It is, nevertheless, comprehensive. It has a great value because Dr. Dillon is an expert on this sort of thing, and because of his nationality he has a perspective which could be put in no book written by an American on this subject.

—GABRIEL S. YORKE.

*PRESCRIBING FOR ENGLAND'S ILLS**

MR. WILLIAMS in his volume, gives in the form of a diary his daily experiences amongst the laborers of England during the year 1920 as a sequel to a similar experience amongst the workers of America published in a previous volume.

It is unfair and impossible in a couple of paragraphs to give his conclusions. His work is an earnest, careful and honest attempt to convey to the public by word pictures the conditions of British labor at the present moment, and his conclusions are that unless, internationally speaking, more wants are created in the minds of the people of all nations, there will continue to be too many people in Great Britain who cannot find any work to do of any kind. This will lead to upheavals which will extend around the world.

He gives no solution for labor other than this. Probably no one can. But it would seem to a casual observer that the fact noted in the report of the commission sent to Europe a short time ago by the United States Chamber of Commerce that the people of Europe are consuming only thirty per cent of the products of labor compared to normal times might give one explanation of the present labor crisis. If suddenly today Europe could increase its demands for goods, food-stuffs, and commodities generally more than three hundred per cent—thus reaching only normal—the supply of jobs would increase in England and elsewhere at least normally. This sudden jump in a day is impossible. It is not impossible however that the jump, the return to normal, may occur in a few years, and thus the terrific situation in England and elsewhere must for the time remain one of the heritages of war, just as the maimed and ruined human beings remain. The book itself is an unique method of bringing home to the reader a picture of the situation in British civilization that is appalling, that stimulates that reader's mind to altruism and to a blind desire to be of some kind of assistance. That alone is good. Only by knowing each

*"FULL UP AND FED UP," by Whiting Williams. Charles Scribner's Sons.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

other's views and states of mind can men be tolerant and in the end helpful.

But here again the baneful influence of war stalks before the reader in all its ugliness. If a man has a temperature of one hundred and four degrees for four days, it takes perhaps four weeks for him to get back to normal. The war was a fever lasting four years. Is it going to require twenty-eight years for the world to recover?

The proposals made that government should do something seem a dangerous remedy. Government after all is nothing more than the essence of the people who are governed. It can do little that the public itself cannot do. If the Labor party came into power in England today with Thomas or Henderson in Lloyd George's place, what could be done to better the situation? To confiscate property seems questionable in view of the Russian situation. Payment to non-working individuals out of government funds is nothing more than a step in that direction. Trite as it may seem to say so, therefore, the only cure seems to lie with the people themselves. We are in a terrific period of readjustment. Time will settle the situation, though millions will suffer meanwhile to an extent that cannot be expressed in words. —LUCAS LEXOW.

---

*LOVE LYRICS OF OLD PALESTINE**

THE Man with the Scythe was kind in sparing Professor Jastrow until he had completed his trilogy of biblical interpretations. The third volume of the series of which *The Gentle Cynic* and *The Book of Job* are the other two, now appears with even a foreword by the deceased author. Its subject is the Song of Songs of the Old Testament and the handling of it reveals him as a poet no less brilliant than he was as a critic and student of ancient Hebrew literature.

He has rearranged the Song of Songs as twenty-three love lyrics and a few fragments, the translation being his own. As he presents them they are no different than those sung by Nordic minstrels—folk songs, of the earth, earthy, praises of that sort of Love which is mentioned not in the *Christian Science Monitor* but which caused Abelard his pangs.

This very characteristic kept succeeding generations from knowing them as they were meant to be. So that in addition to giving us a new translation and the proper interpretation of them Professor Jastrow found it necessary to devote the greater part of his work to a masterly study showing how, at different times, rabbi, priest and secular author spoiled them, first, by ascribing them to Solomon, second, by considering them in a

*"THE SONG OF SONGS," by Morris Jastrow, Jr.—J. B. Lippincott Company.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

biographical sense in connection with him, third, by submitting them to the tortures applied by both Jewish and Christian exegetes, fourth, by insisting on a dramatic basis which was supposed to give them literary unity. They are, after the centuries, again disclosed as unassuming songs, warm in spirit and rich in figure.

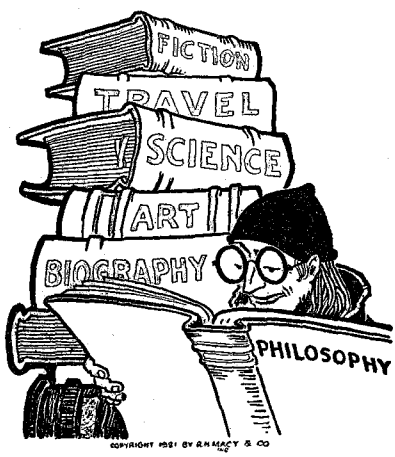
—G. S. YORKE

EAGLE "MIKADO"

PENCIL No. 174

For Sale at your Dealer
THE YELLOW PENCIL WITH THE RED BAND
EAGLE PENCIL COMPANY
NEW YORK

R. H. Macy & Co. Inc.
Herald Square New York



Maintain the largest and most complete book department in New York City

THE QUAKER CHALLENGE TO A WORLD OF FORCE
an Address by
ELBERT RUSSELL
To be had FREE by addressing
FRIENDS' GENERAL CONFERENCE
140 North 15th Street Philadelphia, Pa.

FREDERIC WARREN
Studio of Singing
370 Central Park West New York

REAL HARRIS, LEWIS, and SHETLAND HOMESPUNS
DIRECT FROM THE MAKERS
The Aristocrat of tweed for golf and all sport wear
Patterns and Prices on Application
S. A. NEWALL & SONS, (Dept. 42) Stornaway, SCOTLAND
State shade desired and if for ladies' or gent's wear

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED